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THE TIMES

Britain's energy over the next 10 years: Six-page Special Report

Mr Foot leads Mr Callaghan by six votes in the first ballot

· Foot, the main left-wing candidate, had a lead of six tes over his strongest rival, Mr Callaghan, in the first llot for the Labour leadership. Soon after the result was nounced Mr Jenkins, who came third, stated that he was standing down from the contest. A similar announcement had come from Mr Benn, who said he would support Mr Foot. Mr Crosland, who drew 17 of the 314 votes cast, was automatically eliminated.

Mr Jenkins and Mr Benn withdraw from contest

David Wood
tical Editor

ir Foot, Secretary of State Employment and to some ar still the darling of our's left wing, had a lead ix votes over Mr Callaghan, etary of State for Foreign Commonwealth Affairs, n the result of the Parliatary Labour Party's first ot for a successor to Mr son as party leader and ne *Minister was announced* he House of Commons last it.

f the six candidates in the est, only Mr Crosland, etary of State for the ironment, was automatically inated by the procedure of exhaustive ballot. But Mr lgwood Benn, Secretary of e for Energy, with 37 votes, ediately announced his idrawal from the second ot, and within an hour Mr kins, Home Secretary, had owed *his example.*

heir motives were not the e. Mr Benn, who had done er better than his campaign *agers had encouraged him* elieve, said that he would ort Mr Foot, although he itted that he could not mic his votes to him.

r Jenkins, whose 56 votes esented not quite a defeat a setback for everything he stood for in Labour politics e Hugh Gaitskell's days, *manifestly withdrew in the* expectation that his votes would be free to move against *Mr* Foot.

In Mr Jenkins's name the following statement was made: "Mr Jenkins's name is withdrawn from the second ballot. He feels that the Parliamentary Labour Party and the nation will now welcome an early decision as to who is to be the next Prime Minister."

Apparently there were 12 principal supporters in Mr Jenkins's room at the House when he announced his decision, and he carried the majority with him, on the argument that although he had commanded a third of the centre-right of the PLP he had insufficient backing to win the leadership. Therefore, the best course was to pull out.

Among Mr Jenkins's 12 supporters and sympathisers were: Mr Rodgers, Minister of State, Defence; Mr Tom Bradley, chairman of the Labour Party this year; Dr Dickson Mabon, chairman of the Manifesto Group; Mr Ian Wrigglesworth, the Home Secretary's Parliamentary private secretary; Mr Alan Lee Williams, chairman of the PLP defence group; Mr John Roper; and Mr Edward Lyons, chairman of the home affairs group. Of the *dozen*, three are said to have tried to persuade Mr Jenkins to stay in the contest.

FIRST BALLOT	
Mr Foot	90
Mr Callaghan	84
Mr Jenkins	56
Mr Benn	37
Mr Healey	30
Mr Crosland	17

The decision having been made, a number of Mr Jenkins's supporters were trying without success to induce Mr Healey to stand down so that there *could be a united centre-right* front against Mr Foot.

Members of the Foot camp were claiming late last night *that 17 out of the 56 votes* for Mr Jenkins would be switched to Mr Healey and 10 to Mr Foot. The Benn camp suggests that 26 of Mr Benn's votes will be committed to Mr Foot and that the other 11 will be floating.

The word of Mr Jenkins's withdrawal spread rapidly through the Palace of Westminster and produced shock waves. It had been generally recognized that Mr Jenkins's support had fallen well below his tactical team's canvass, and indeed well below the total of hardcore Europeanists in the PLP on whom he has always been able to rely for loyalty and support.

The total of 56 votes for Mr Jenkins confirmed that his star *is sinking, at least in the PLP,* even among those who have soldiered with him for many years.

There is no doubt that Mr Jenkins's announcement caused anguish to his strongest supporters and gave great joy to the left wing and the Callaghan camp.

For his part, Mr Benn wasted less than a minute after the declaration of the poll before he came out of the party meeting to announce that he was withdrawing immediately. And Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who with 30 votes was behind both Mr Jenkins and Mr Benn, let it be known through Mr Joel Barnett, his campaign manager, that he had entered the fray late but was staying in to the end.

The prospects are that most, if not all, Mr Benn's 37 votes will transfer on the second ballot to Mr Foot.

Where Mr Jenkins's support will list on the second ballot is more difficult to predict. In the end, it is expected to finish up with Mr Callaghan, in a straight fight with Mr Foot, but on the second ballot some of the Jenkinsite votes could easily build up *Mr Healey's score. In* effect, Mr Healey is now presenting the party with the only centre-right alternative to Mr Callaghan.

If 314 Labour MPs continue to poll, the eventual winner must take 158 votes, or just over half the valid votes cast. On that prospect, Mr Callaghan continues to be regarded by the PLP as the likely winner, although it is accepted that a third ballot may now be necessary to prove the weight of his support.

Although it had been widely suggested that Mr Callaghan might run second on the first ballot, simply because the centre and right vote in the PLP was being split four ways while the left's vote was divided only between two candidates, Mr Foot's camp was cock-a-hoop last night.

Not least, they rejoiced in what they regarded as the destruction of Mr Jenkins, whom they regarded as peculiarly Mr Foot's opposite number on the Gaitskellite right. In fact, all three anti-left candidates polled at the bottom of the bracket of votes that their camps had postulated 24 hours earlier, and so did Mr Callaghan.

Broadly, it may be fair to add together Mr Foot's and Mr Benn's votes to get the left's maximum: 127. The centre

Continued on page 2, col 5

Prince Bernhard: Replies from royal palace

Bernhard links with London financier

By Malcolm Brown and Maurice Corina

Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands has been closely involved with a London-based financier, who claims to represent a group of highly placed individuals in negotiating business deals around the world.

Shaikh Ali Ahmed, who runs Finance Intercontinental from a suite of offices in Kingsway but travels regularly to the Continent, refused yesterday to answer specific questions about his business, but confirmed that he was known *to* the prince.

The mysterious Mr Ahmed has engaged in numerous negotiations for financing various *projects in Europe, Africa*, the Middle East and the United States. Some of *these* have proved abortive and prompted complaints direct to the prince from the parties involved about the circumstances under *which* they had participated.

These complaints have drawn replies from the Royal Palace of Soestdijk near Hilversum declaring that Mr Ahmed is a personal friend, but Prince Bernhard could not be drawn into any disputes. It is being alleged, however, that the prince has been helpful in effecting introductions and meeting business contacts in ways that have assisted Mr Ahmed in his various deals.

The deals have covered plans to build hotels, roads, low-cost housing schemes, municipal developments, oil supply, and food packaging factories.

Among a string of companies which have been involved, or approached to do business, have been Power Gas, Metal Box, British Caledonian, Hanover Building Contractors Holding, Interbeton, West Bank Oil, and certain City institutions.

The Governments of Mauritius, Congo (Brazzaville), Morocco, Kenya, and Tanzania have also had contacts with Finance Intercontinental, often at *the highest level*. None of these appears to have resulted in a completed business deal.

Finance Intercontinental's operations are *a mystery*, given the scale of certain of the negotiations. Its Kingsway office houses three companies—FI, Mackelcken & Co, and Africasia. These are described as financing agents, and general merchants.

It operates with two telex machines one according to a former close associate, kept under Mr Ahmed's personal control.

More than a few business negotiations have been negotiated in the more impressive surroundings of the nearby Waldorf Hotel. According to the latest returns filed at Companies House, *FI* has a nominal share capital of £100,000.

Among the major shareholders, the register states, is *Mr Maxwell Rabb*, who is a top New York lawyer and former *Secretary* to the Cabinet in the administration of President Eisenhower.

Curiously, Mr Ahmed does not appear to control any shares himself, but members of

Continued on page 17, col 1

President of Lebanon flees palace after Muslim bombardment

From Paul Martin
Beirut, March 25

President Suleiman Franjieh fled from his beleaguered palace to the safety of the Christian enclave today after leftist forces had bombarded the building with artillery and mortars in a night-*long* barrage.

Although physically dislodged, after a defiant *two-week* stand against efforts to force *his* resignation, the 65-year-old President has now declared his *determination* to cling to office "until the last moment".

About 250 Britons—at least 12 of them children—trapped by the fighting in the town of Broumana, east of Beirut, were advised by the British Embassy today to leave as soon as possible. The town has been under heavy shellfire from the leftists in the past three days and all *its inhabitants*, including *about* 250 children at *the* British school there, have been driven to basements.

The Britons are advised to take advantage of periodic lulls in the fighting to make their way to either of the Christian-held ports of Jounieh or Byblos. They have been strongly advised not to attempt to reach Beirut.

President Franjieh's flight has *rallied* right-wing Christian support for him with the Phalangists calling on "every man, woman and soldier" to join the crusade and "save the nation". However, the leftists, Palestinian guerrillas and their allies in the Muslim camp, continued to press on with their military campaign on the three fronts—in Beirut, in Mount Lebanon and in the mountains for the villages overlooking Beirut.

Mr Franjieh made his escape from the palace at Baabda, perched in the hills near the capital, in a bullet proof car protected by a convoy of loyalist troops, his own guards and *right-wing militiamen*. He took with him his wife, two sons and his dogs. *What he left behind* was a shell-holed and fire blackened *scene of havoc*.

Earlier, dressed in pyjamas, he had personally commanded artillery barrages fired from the grounds of his palace by loyalist troops on Muslim areas of Beirut and the leftist armies that had closed in on him. However, the eight long campaign to stave off defeat did not succeed militarily or morally. He had declared to supporters that the only way the left and *his* other enemies would drive him from *the palace would be to* carry him out dead.

He has now set up his *provisional* presidency north of Beirut near the small port town of Jounieh which is the capital of the Maronite Christian enclave.

Since all form of government had long since ceased to function in the country, Mr Franjieh's departure from the palace has little practical meaning. However, it is of *immense* political, military and symbolic *importance since* it paves *the* way for further leftist advances *into* the lower *Metn* area and makes the de facto partition of the country more of a political reality.

However, the Phalangists and their allies, including Christian defectors from the Lebanese Army with armour and heavy equipment, appeared to have checked the leftists marching on Beit Meri, the strategic town overlooking Beirut, and *Broumana* near by.

The leftist *victories and* the further entrenchment of the *Christians* in their *ghetto mentality* have scuttled the Syrian attempts to save the situation in Lebanon. Mr Kamal Jumblatt, the socialist leader, who has overall command of the present leftist Muslim campaign, declared today that Mr Franjieh's flight was not enough and that he must resign "immediately".

In the port of Beirut huge fires started by artillery, mortar and rocket fire, are raging out of control in warehouses on the *docks. Newspapers reported* that they have caused a loss of *wheat, food* supplies and other goods stored at the port worth \$400m (*more* than £200m). This has prompted Mr Adel Osseiran, the Economy Minister, to declare that the loss of stored food could lead to famine in Lebanon if nothing is done to save what remains.

South Africans to quit Angola by tomorrow

From Our Correspondent
Cape Town, March 25

The South African armed forces will be out of Angola by Saturday. Mr P. W. Botha, the Minister of Defence, announced in the House of Assembly today that clarification had been received of the assurances already given to South Africa by Britain. It came through Dr Kurt Waldheim, Secretary General of the United Nations.

"Seen as a whole, the assurances by the Government of the Peoples' Republic of Angola amount to this: that it will not damage the hydroelectric project concerned or endanger the workers and that it will respect the international boundary."

The minister added: "South Africa's only interest is that the Calueque *and* Ruacana schemes, in both Angola and *Ovamboland, should be secured.* It is expected that after our withdrawal, and when conditions in the area are again normal, it will be feasible to arrange practical matters concerning the scheme with those concerned."

Mr Botha also disclosed that South Africa had again appealed to Dr Waldheim to ensure a smooth and orderly takeover of the refugee camps in southern Angola to prevent suffering when South African troops were completely withdrawn.

Peter Strafford writes from New York: South Africa's decision provides a new framework for the Security Council meeting on Angola tomorrow. It had looked like being a stormy one, with criticism of the South Africans being balanced by attacks on the Soviet Union and the Cubans for their *intervention*.

Britain and the United States had made clear that they were not prepared to veto a resolution *critical* of South Africa.

eyland Cars 'will fail' stoppages persist

Clifford Webb

r *Derek Whittaker*, manag- director of Leyland Cars, erday *told* a mass meeting hop stewards representing *company's 114,000* em- ees, that unless there was pid end to *strikes* "there certainty that the group fail and there will be a ive loss of jobs".

warned the 350 senior stewards assembled at t notice at the Longbridge, ingham, plant that the *any's financial position* again deteriorating owing rike losses.

the past two weeks pro- ion had fallen from 18,000 a week to 14,000—and this *time when Leyland was* ving heaven and earth" to ase output.

Whittaker said Leyland ers were *so frustrated by* large number of sales they *missing because of* the shortage that their confi- e could be *undermined* anently. This loss of con- ce at a time when com- ors were enjoying good ness could lead to deser- to rival franchises.

that happened Leyland would fall still further. e was an equally damaging tion developing in export ets and in the vital Euro- market in particular.

emphasized that *the* im- ed financial position *rted* at British *Leyland's* al meeting last week was ning *away. After* the en- aging break-even position hed as a result of a virtu- strike-free January and uary they were again g losses.

e freeze on capital invest- t which he was forced to ase in December as a result strike losses was now ardizing the company's term recovery plans.

Mr Whittaker was also concerned about the effect of the latest outbreak of strikes on Leyland's component suppliers. He told the shop stewards that component firms had been persuaded to increase their own output to meet Leyland's immediate higher output targets.

If these short term targets were not met the suppliers would not have the confidence necessary to prepare for the even higher targets the company was setting for later in the year.

It is known that Mr Whittaker was aiming to produce 22,000 cars a week by August—8,000 more than at present.

The shop stewards heard *him* and other senior executives almost in silence. Then they elected Mr Derek Robinson, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' convener at Longbridge, as *their spokesman*.

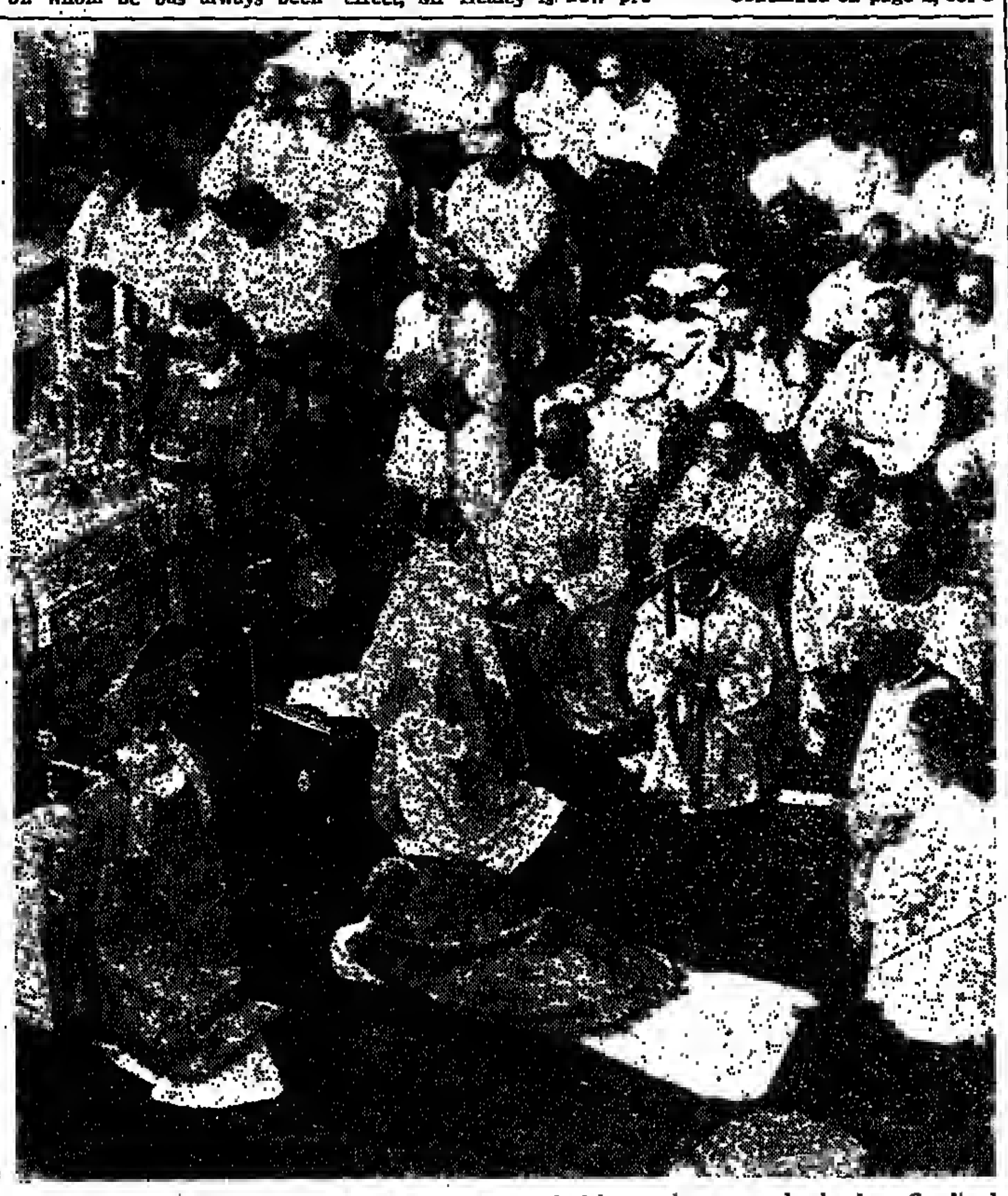
He plays a key role on Leyland Cars' joint management *council*, the top tier of the newly introduced three-tier participation machinery recommended by the Ryder report.

Union sources said Mr Robinson told the meeting that the unions accepted the reasons for the management's present concern, but that was not the right forum to discuss individual disputes.

However, in what was seen by management as a major concession he proposed that each of the disputes should be taken back into the company's disputes procedure for yet another attempt to settle them in an atmosphere of good will.

The shop stewards agreed that a recommendation to this effect should be added to a summary of the management's submissions and circulated to all 37 factories today.

Leyland staff were working late last night to prepare this document and circulate copies.



Archbishop installed: The Most Rev George Basil Hume, former Abbot of Ampleforth, lying prostrate in the sanctuary of Westminster Cathedral yesterday as the litany of the saints was sung during his ordination as bishop and installation as Roman Catholic *Archbishop of Westminster*. Later the new archbishop, who succeeds the late Cardinal Heenan, joined the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey for Vespers at the abbey, a historic moment in the healing of relations between the two churches (Report of installation, page 2; Address at abbey, page 16).

ine of £675,000 n building firm ı 'lump' case

es and costs totaling £837,700 were osed at the Central Criminal Court two construction companies and eight their employees after they were found lty of a plot to defraud the Inland venue of more than £850,000 in "lump" ments to workers. The firms were Murphy and Sons Ltd, of Highbury, idon, who were fined £675,000, and its er company, J. M. Piling Ltd, fined ,000. Three of Murphy's senior execu- es were jailed for three years and ed £10,000 each Page 5

it pay challenge

litants in the National Union of Mine- rkers are to demand at the union's nual policy-making conference in July at a claim for £100 a week for coalface rkers be pressed to a conclusion this ar, by means of industrial action if cessary Page 2

'ost Office clash

e Post Office board is likely to resist vernment moves to set up a tripartite quiry into the appointment of worker rectors. Sir William Ryland, chairman, s told the Government that only his ard and the unions should be involved Page 17

Mr Gromyko's hint of accord on Africa

Mr Gromyko, Soviet Foreign Minister, flew back to Moscow after his visit to Britain. At a press conference he gave a hint that accord had been reached on Africa. In his talks with Mr Wilson and Mr Callaghan "we expressed our understanding that the question of Angola and the countries around Angola could be resolved constructively" Page 8

Concorde ban rejected

By 50 votes to 31 the Senate yesterday rejected a proposal to forbid Concorde landings at United States airports except in emergency. Last July a motion to ban Concorde was defeated in the *Senate* by only 46 to 44 Page 8

Births study: A total of 2,500 mothers are being questioned about their experiences in child-bearing as part of a survey of obstetric techniques 2

Games estimate: It would cost Glasgow £450m to stage the 1984 Olympics, with a deficit of up to £200m, a report says 5

Crime: More offences are committed under the influence of alcohol than statistics show, a *survey suggests* 6

EEC: Committee of the House of Lords favours Brussels as the site for a European Parliament 7

Buenos Aires: All quiet in Argentina as the *military junta* tightens its grip 8

New towns: No more new towns are likely to be designated, although existing towns will continue expansion plans 16

US 'swine flu' scare

President Ford has urged the entire population of America to be vaccinated against so-called "swine flu". He said he was taking emergency action to forestall what scientists had persuaded him was the real possibility of an outbreak next autumn. The epidemic took heavy toll in *1918-1919* Page 9

'Security precinct' plan to protect city from bombers

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

A foretaste of the future which could face several British cities was provided yesterday when the Government announced its latest plans for trying to protect the shattered commercial heart of Belfast against IRA bombers.

Designed to make shopping easier, the plans will, from next week, turn the centre of *the* city into an almost traffic-free fortress inside a two-mile fenced-off perimeter area. The "*security precinct*" will have 17 entrance gates, where pedestrians will be checked by a force of more than three hundred civilian searchers, a new kind of government employee not known in the rest of the United Kingdom.

The scheme is an extension of that which has operated *since 1972* and *has made* shopping in Belfast a lengthy and *frustrating* experience for housewives, who have to submit every parcel for checking. Under the old arrangements the city centre was divided into four separate security segments, each with its own searching procedures for those crossing from one to another.

For some time the authorities on the British mainland, mindful of the threat of a Provisional IRA campaign, have been closely watching security *ideas* pioneered in Belfast. Although the latest innovation is being presented as intended primarily to assist shoppers, it is known to have been introduced at the request of the security authorities.

Many stores employ their own searching staff. None the less there is resignation among Belfast retailers and customers for bombers *still* succeed in planting deadly devices.

From next Monday all the main central shopping thoroughfares will be guarded by what are described as "big, new, multichannel pedestrian search gates".

The need for the precautions was illustrated within minutes of them being outlined at a Stormont Castle briefing. Three miles across the city, in Great Victoria Street, outside the "security precinct", three Provisional IRA men drove up to a row of seven shops recently reopened after a previous attack.

Two bombs were planted, a pistol was pointed at staff, and within 15 minutes the premises were once again a pile of debris and broken glass.

Unprecedented meeting: Mr William Craig, leader of the Vanguard Unionist Party, who last year defected from the hardline "loyalist" coalition in Ulster, yesterday held an unprecedented meeting in Dublin with the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, Mr Cosgrave. The meeting was arranged by the Irish Government.

It is thought that Mr Craig made suggestions for tightening border security and changing articles in the Irish Constitution which express the aspiration for a united Ireland.

Rees statement, page 4

HOME NEWS

Militant areas of the miners' union demand that £100 a week claim should be pressed this year

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A serious challenge to the next round of incomes policy is being mounted by militant miners' leaders. That is disclosed in the preliminary agenda for the annual policy-making conference of the National Union of Mineworkers, published today.

The Yorkshire area of the NUM asks the conference to instruct the union executive to demand £100 a week for coal-face workers from November 1. Pitmen have just received the £6 maximum allowed under wage restraint rules.

The Yorkshire miners propose that in the event of an "unsatisfactory response" from the National Coal Board, the executive should consult the 260,000 NUM members "with a view to taking various forms of industrial ection" in pursuit of the demand for rises of np to £33 n week.

Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire area, said last night: "I think the miners will recognize the mistake made last time, and vote overwhelmingly in sopport of £100 a week from November." That was a reference to the pithead ballot last August, which went three to two in favour of supporting the Government-TUC incomes policy. The annual conference had already voted to seek £100 a week for faceworkers.

"South Wales area deplores the executive's failure to pursue that claim and insists that it should be renewed "without alteration or hesitation."

The communist-led Scottish miners invite the conference to declare complete opposition to "any form of wages policy under capitalism in the belief that such policies are both ineqnitable and incapable of solving tha problem of inflation". They demand an immediate return to free collective bargaining.

Ranged against the left-wing coalfield proposals is a proposal from the Northumberland area calling for a wage increase "approaching the £100 target". and calls by three other areas for e rule change that would force the executive to hold a pithead ballot before imposing a national han on overtime.

The miners' conference will take place in the Isle of Man in early July. It is likely to be strongly influenced by the decisions of the special TUC conference on wage restraint and economic strategy dne to take place shortly beforehand.

"Ritual condemnation": Mr Alex Donnet, Scottish Secretary of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and e member of the TUC General Council, received a hostile reception yesterday when he told the 279 delegates at e Scottish TUC conference in Glasgow called to protest against public expenditure cuts: "I think you should stop the ritual condemnation of Denis Healey and try to understand the limitations under which he is operating."

In a speech that was constantly and loudly interrupted, Mr Donnet claimed that the Chancellor had tried to protect ordinary people from suffering, for if ha failed, worse than cuts would follow.

Mr James Milne, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, said he expected the Scottish TUC in April to vote in favour of maintaining the social services intact.

Views sought from mothers on childbirth

By Neville Hodgkinson

A total of 2,500 mothers are being qnestioned about their experiences in child-bearing as part of e study that will cast light on controversies surrounding modern obstetric techniques.

The three-year project is being paid for by the Department of Health and Social Security and being carried out by the Institute for Social Studies in Medical Care, an independent research organization.

The institute suggested the study as a means of providing accurate information on issues such as induced births, provision of care at home or in hospital, and length of stay and size of the hospital concerned. The emphasis is on establishing what treatment is being received in different parts of the country and what mothers and hospital staff feel about it.

It is hoped that this will provide a scientific background for examining the criticisms of organizations such as the National Childbirth Trust and the Patients' Association, which have argued that the streamlined medical administration of childbirth under the NHS can act against the best interests of mother and child.

Twenty-four representative areas of England and Wales have been eelected, and within each of those the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys has provided random samples of 100 live births and 10 still births.

The researchers have been interviewing the mothers in their homes, taking them through their experience and finding out what they felt about it. They are interviewing midwives in the hospitals, getting their views on the main issues, although not on specific hirths.

They have also written to obstetricians, asking them to complete n questionnaire on their views and experiences.

The study is particularly concerned with induced births, which rose from 13.7 per cent of hospital births in 1963 to 37.2 per cent in 1973. The National Childbirth Trust has complained that in some hospitals inductions are sometimes being performed apparently for the convenience of staff, rather than on medical grounds, and with little or no reference to the mother's wishes.

Dr Owen, Minister of State for Health, said in a Commons written reply last December that an Investigation by department officials had found no evidence of a widespread use of induction for staff convenience. But he added that there was a need for greater discussion between staff and mothers.

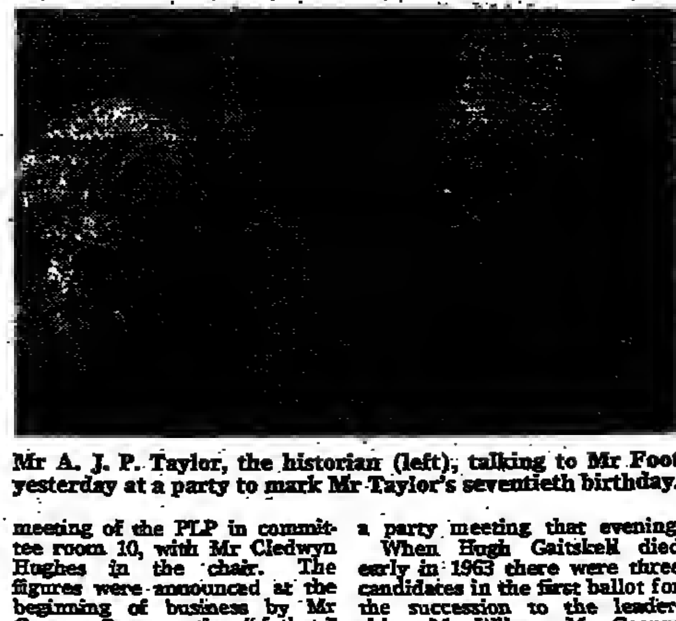
Science report, page 4

Mr Healey's supporters hope to split the Callaghan vote

Continued from page 1

and right vote for Mr Callaghan, at the end of the day, is potentially 187 votes. That explains the conviction in the PLP that, in line with predictions, Mr Callaghan will eventually emerge as the new Prime Minister when the series of ballots has run its course.

There need be no doubt that part of the left's jubilation is to be explained by the ballot's demonstration of their strength. Before long, it is to be assumed that one consequence will be the election of a new deputy leader in the place of Mr Edward Short, and in the circumstances it will be natural to assume that Mr Foot, will emerge as the new Prime Minister's right-hand man.



Mr A. J. P. Taylor, the historian (left), talking to Mr Foot yesterday at a party to mark Mr Taylor's seventieth birthday.

Mr Benn's support surprised some mambers of tha PLP, and he certainly had no need to withdraw on the ballot figures themselves. After tha results had been declared at last night's meeting of the PLP, Mr Benn came out from committee room 10 and said: "I have withdrawn in favour of Michael Foot. I have support from wide sections of the party but I personally am going to vote for Michael Foot. I would like to thank all the people who gave me their support."

Mr Healey, who won seven fewer votes than Mr Benn, made clear that he was still in the contest. He said that he was much encouraged by the support given to him and he looked forward to the next ballot.

His supporters manifestly hope that as the ballot procedure goes on he will split the Callaghan vote, and perhaps pick up a few votes from the Benn camp.

The poll was declared at a meeting of the PLP in committee room 10, with Mr Cledwyn Hughes in the chair. The figures were announced at the beginning of business by Mr George Strauss, the "father" of the House.

Mr Strauss said that 317 ballot papers were prepared, and when voting closed at noon yesterday two papers were unclaimed. A total of 314 votes were cast.

Papers for the second ballot, with the four remaining candidates, were posted with the PLP whip at thu House of Commons last night. No new nomination will be valid. The figures will be announced next Tuesday, when the ballot will close at noon.

If a third ballot is necessary, papers will be issued at 8 o'clock on Tuesday night onwards, to be returned by noon on Monday week, April 5. The figures will he announced at a party meeting that evening.

When Hugh Gaitskell died early in 1963 there were three candidates in the first ballot for the succession to the leadership: Mr Wilson, Mr George Brown and Mr Callaghan. They polled respectively 115, 88 and 41 votes.

When Mr Callaghan was eliminated most of the mobile votes went to Mr Wilson, who finished with a lead over Mr Brown of 144 votes to 103.

It is clearly going to be less simple this time; there are three candidates left in the arena for the second ballot. Mr Wilson has given every sign that he welcomes that consequence of his unexpected resignation. Certainly, he was overheard to advise one Cabinet minister, who considered standing and then pulled hack, to show a stouter heart next time there is a vacancy.

Leading article, page 15

Archbishop's pledge to 'serve' at installation

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The former Abbot of Ampl forth, the Most Rev Geor Basil Hume, was ordaine bishop and installed with d ceremony as ninth Archbish of the Roman Catholic dioce of Westminster in his cath dral in London yesterday.

The two-and-a-half hour cer mony, televized live, was first in England to use the ne rite for the ordination bishops. It emphasizes, as d the new archbishop in h address, that the office bishop is not one of "honour but of "service".

"A bishop ought not to i pose himself on others", h said. "Rather he should see to draw out of others what best in them." He was loudl applauded.

The ceremony was notable fo its ecumenical and its mona tic flavour. The new arc bishop went at one point to th place in the sanctuary reserve for the leaders of othe churches, and embraced th Archbishop of York, the Mos Rev Stuart Blanch, who wa present with 13 other Anglica bishops.

The Bishop of London, D Ellison, represented the Arch bishop of Canterbury, D Coggan, who is in Trinidad fo a meeting of the Anglican Co sultative Council.

More than a score of Benedic tine abbots were present fro England and abroad, and th monks of Ampleforth sang plainsong sequence in honou of St Benedict.

Mgr Hume's personal choi as principal celebrant at h ordination was the aposto delegate, Mgr Bruno Heim, men whose job it was to advi the Pope on the late Cardin Heenan's successor.

At three points spontaneou applause broke out among th huge congregation of bishop priests, and lay people. One those occasions was at the e of his address, in which he h emphasized thu human frai common to all men and calle on the congregation to set the selves the ideal of perfectio

The ceremony, rich in sy bolic ritual, colour and musi pivoted round the moment installation of the new arc bishop on his episcopal thron Until that point the procee ings had been almost wholly the hands of the apostolic del gate as principal celebrant, th new archbishop mainly sile and passive.

From then on he came the centre of the stage, pa ticularly for the concelebrat Mass. All 600 priests and bishops present took part in th concelebration, probably th largest ever seen in Britain.

Later yesterday afternoon th new archbishop sang the offic of Vespers in Westminste Abbey with the Dean and Chap ter of the Abbey, a histori moment in the rapprochemen between the two churches. I his address there he stressed that the two churches were no reconciled. "The siste churches can now look bac on a past which is dead an buried", he said.

Abbey address, page 16

Meat prices 'will rise 15p a pound'

By Hugh Clayton

Supplies of fresh meat this year will be the lowest for seven years and prices will rise by 15p in the pound or more, the Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday. But Mr George Howard, the commission'e chairman, said that the meat industry should nevertheless strive to increase sales overseas.

"We believe firmly that exports can in the long run greatly benefit the British coosumer in tha same way that exports of cars ara essential to the home market", Mr Howard said.

He was introducing the commission's annual report, which included a breakdown of costs and profits in the meat distribution chain. It postulated an animal weighing just over 1,000lb and sold to a wholesaler at 21p a pound.

After removing blood, hide and offal worth about £15, he would sell the carcass to a shopkeeper at 41½p a pouod. The shopkeeper would remove bone and fat, leaving him 400lb of meat which, bought with the whole carcass, would cost him 60½p a lb.

Treasury report nearly ready on two City firms

By Clive Borrell

Treasury enforcement officials were completing yesterday the final stages of a dossier on two City of London companies in connexion with alleged breaches of the Exchange Control Act, 1947.

The report will he eent to the Director of Public Prosecutions. An earlier one has already heen considered by the DPP and a man is to appear at Guildhall Justice-Room next month oo 10 summonses under the Act iovolving Swiss and German currency worth about £900,000.

Although the Treasury was anxious to point our last night that the threa cases are in no way related, I understand that a sum of seven figures is involved and all the cases fall under the same Act.

The investigation ioto the three cases has been going on for two years

Our Financial Staff writes: The officials have been investigating the means by which illegally exported sterling has beeo converted into foreign currency or investments and brought back into the United Kingdom to gain the investment dollar premium on reconversion to sterling.

The Exchange Control Act, 1947, controls all transactions involving the export of sterling from the individual travel allowance for businessmen and holidaymakers to the requirements of United Kingdom corporations wishing to invest abroad.

In the case of individual investment, it requires purchases of overseas securities or properties to be made through the investment dollar preminm "pool" so that United Kingdom reserves might not be depleted through massive shifts of capital out of the country. The rate of premium paid for those investmeot dollars fluctuates with supply and demand

At present that involves a penalty of betweeo 50 per cent and 60 per cent on the sterling price of making the purchases. If the United Kingdom resident holder wishes to repatriate the funds, 25 per cent of tha disposal proceeds are exchanged back into sterling et the normal exchange rate, with the remaining three quarters being eligible to reclaim the premium.

If funds can be emuggled out of the United Kingdom in the first iostance without payment of the premium they can, by a complicated route, be brought back in, attracting repayment of the premium on the way, at a substantial profit.

Security to be tightened at Parliament

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Security at the Houses of Parliament is to be tightened after reports in the press that a member of the Provisional IRA had been employed in the kitchens of the House of Commons.

Mr Short, Leader of the House, told MPs yesterdey thet, after ao iovestigation his conclusion was that there was no reason to suspect that the person concerned, who was employed in the House on a casual basis between March 3 and 22, either had been or was et the moment a member of the IRA.

The incideot, however, highlighted the security shortcomings inherent in the employment of casual labour, and those concerned were considering urgently what improvements were possible.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Police concern at risk of conflict over black arrests

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

There have been 40 incidents in the past 12 months of West Indians combining against Metropolitan policemen, according to policn evidencn to the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration yesterday.

The incidents have occurred when West Indians heve sought to interfere with police officers arresting black people or io some other way enforcing the law in situations involving black people, a Metropolitan Police memorandum said. The memorandum said there hed been a growth in that tendency recently.

Each incident could have led to large-scale disorder. Despite that, few situetions had arisen in which the local police had been nnable to cope.

Generally, relations between police and most West Iodians, who were hard-working and law-abiding people, were indistinguishable from those between police and white people who lived in socially deprived areas.

The police did not argue thet there was a causal link between ethnic origin and crime. "What our records do suggest is that London's black citizens, among whom those of West Indian origin predominate, are disproportionately involved in many forms of crime.

"But in view of their heavy concentration in areas of urban stress, which are themselves high-crime areas, and in view of the disproportionate numbers of young people in the West Indian population, this pattern is not surprising.

"Clearly further research is needed on this sensitive and emotive subject, but already our experience has taught us the fallibility of the assertion that crime rates among those of West Indian origin are no higher than those of the population at large."

Ulster Bill 'will not protect advocates of violence'

People who advocated violence would not be protected by the Government's Bill dealing with fair employment in Ulster, Mr Orme, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, said yesterday.

It was the views of individuals, and not of organizations to which they might belong, that would decide, he told the Commons Committee on the Fair Employment (Northern Ireland) Bill.

Mr Enoch Powell, United Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, eaid the minister had "made n most important statement and most important definition".

Under the Bill a person will be protected against job discrimination oo grounds of religious belief or political opinion. Mr Orme said: "A person who initiates or advocates, by statements or by actions, violence, will not he covered by this Bill."

That included individuals who might not be members of organizations.

Unionist MPs had asked about people who were members of legal organizations such as Provisional Sinn Fein and the Ulster Defence Association. Mr Orme added: "Of course, you can have a member of that legal organization who never has believed in violence, never advocated or taken part in it, and that person would be protected by the Bill."

Man and woman on explosions plot charge

A man and a woman were remanded in custody yesterday until April 1 at South-Western Magistrates' Court, Loodon, charged with conspiracy to cause explosioos.

They were Sarah Ann Donnelly, aged 45, a home help from co Tyrooe, of Harleyford Road, Kenniogton, London, and John Hayes, aged 26, from Dublin, unemployed, of Long Beach Road, Lavender Hill, London.

Both were charged that between February 13 and March 19 they conspired tagether aod with othere to cause explosions within the United Kiogdom of a oature likely to eodanger life or cause damage to property.

Closed shop Act

The Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill, the Goveroment's "closed-shop" measure which incorporates the controversial proposals for a charter on press freedom, has received the Royal Assent.

MP to quit

Mr Michael Stewart, aged 70, Labour MP for Hammersmith, Fulham and former Foreign Secretary, said last night that he would not stand for Parliament at the next general electioo.

Whittle case witness dies

Mr Gerald Smith, aged 45, a security guard whom the man accused of the murder of Lesley Whittle is alleged to have shot, died in hospital yesterday. He was shot seven times on January 15 last year.

Donald Neilson, aged 39, of Thornbury, Bradford, accused of kidnapping and murdering Miss Whittle, has been charged with attempting to murder Mr Smith, who would have been a witness in the Whittle case.

£1m expected for Donington estate

More than £1m is expected for the Donington Park Estate, on the borders of Leicestershire and Derbyshire, which has been put on the market by Mr J. Gillier Shields and his son, whose family have owned the property for about 100 years.

The estate covers 1,110 acres and includes Donington Hall, a Gothic Revival building with a grade two listing. Designed by William Wilkins, the architect of the National Gallery, it was built between 1790 and 1800.

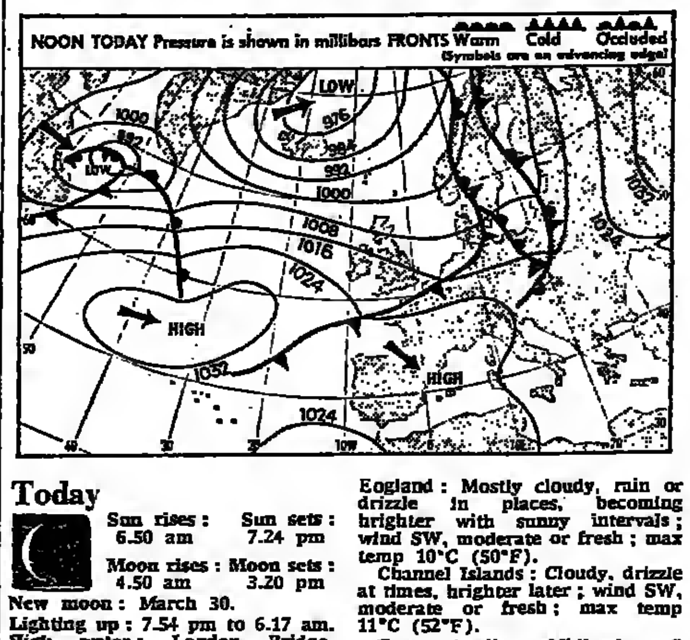
Students' leader is reinstated

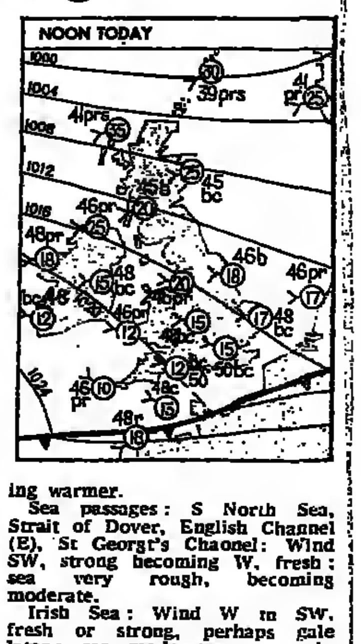
The chairman of Oxford Students' Gay (homosexual) Society has been reinstated at Plater College, the Roman Catholic training college which banned homosexual meetings.

An appeal by Mr Ian Brown, aged 23, against his dismissal by the college principal, Mr J. R. Kirwan, has been upheld by the governors.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)





Today

Sun rises: 6.50 am Sun sets: 7.24 pm
Moon rises: 4.50 am Moon sets: 3.20 pm
New moon: March 30.
Lighting up: 7.54 pm to 6.17 am. High water: London Bridge, 11.47 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); Avonmouth, 5.10 am, 10.7m (35.0ft); 5.42 pm, 10.9m (35.8ft). Dover, 9.18 am, 5.5m (17.9ft); 9.41 pm, 5.6m (18.4ft). Hull, 4.11 am, 5.9m (19.3ft); 4.25 pm, 5.9m (19.5ft). Liverpool, 9.24 am, 7.8m (25.7ft); 10.2 pm, 7.9m (25.8ft).

A trough of low pressure will cross S districts in the morning as a W showery airstream extends to all parts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:
London, SE, Central S, SW England: Mostly cloudy, rain or drizzle in places, becoming brighter with sunny intervals; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Channel Islands: Cloudy, drizzle at times, brighter later; wind SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 11°C (52°F).

East Anglia, Midlands, S Wales: Mostly dry, bright or sunny intervals, isolated showers later; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Scattered showers, sunny intervals, snow showers on mountains later; wind W, moderate or fresh; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Mostly dry with sunny intervals, apart from some showers in N at first; rain spreading in NW later; becoming warmer.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E), St George's Channel: Wind SW, strong becoming W, fresh; sea very rough, becoming moderate.

Irish Sea: Wind W to SW, fresh or strong, perhaps gale later; sea moderate or rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 13°C (55°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 7°C (45°F). Humid, 7 pm, 65 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.06in. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 0.6hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,016.5 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Algiers	f	14	57	Copnhgn	sn	0	32	Lisbon	s	13	55	Naples	f	13	55
Amsterdm	r	8	46	Dublin	d	10	50	Locarno	c	12	54	New York	c	15	59
Athens	f	18	64	Edinburgh	d	6	43	London	c	12	54	Nice	c	19	67
Barcelona	s	14	57	Florence	s	13	55	Luxembrg	c	3	37	Oslo	sn	-1	30
Berlin	c	2	36	Funchal	c	15	59	Madrid	s	10	50	Paris	c	10	50
Bermuda	c	22	72	Genova	c	8	46	Majorca	f	14	57	Reykjavik	c	-3	27
Biarritz	s	18	64	Gibraltar	f	15	59	Malaga	s	16	61	Rome	c	14	57
Bristol	c	11	52	Guernsey	c	9	48	Malta	c	16	61	Stockholm	c	1	34
Brussels	c	9	48	Helsinki	c	-1	30	Manchstr	d	11	52	Tel Aviv	c	10	50
Budapest	c	10	50	Innsbruck	c	7	45	Miami	c	24	75	Venice	c	10	50
Cardiff	c	10	50	Istanbul	c	12	54	Montreal	r	5	41	Vienna	c	4	39
Chicago	c	17	63	Jersey	c	10	50	Moscow	c	1	34	Warsaw	c	4	39
Cologne	c	8	46	L. Palmas	s	19	66	Munich	r	3	37	Zurich	c	5	41

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, BFr 25; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, DKr 3.75; Finland, Fmk 3.50; France, Frs 3.00; Germany, Dmk 2.00; Greece, Dr 25; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 450; Luxembourg, Lf 20; Madeira, Esc 17.50; Malta, 7c; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 35; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, Sfr 3.30; USA/Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 30.

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HOME NEWS

Member nations urged to accept EEC economic discipline

From David Leigh
Glasgow

New EEC machinery for economic intervention in member countries is needed because of the world economic crisis and persistent unemployment throughout Europe, Mr George Thomson, EEC regional commissioner, said in Glasgow last night.

Member governments had to accept a code of Community economic discipline in their common interest, he added. They had to ensure that resources were properly distributed from the stronger economies.

"The alternative is that some countries get left behind while those countries which have the economic strength and the political will to get the benefits of integration go ahead and do so", Mr Thomson said. "It will be a second best even for them and a third and fourth best for those unable to be members of the magic inner circle."

Failure to create a single Community would put immense strain on the survival of European democratic institutions. "Perhaps the wakening awareness in a number of national capitals of the new postrecession unemployment problem will provide the fresh impulse we so desperately need to bring the national economies of the member states closer into step with each other."

The Community's big new investment needs, as developing countries acquired their own industrial base, would mean a lower growth rate for consumption than was politically acceptable, raising difficulties of public consent.

"Even on optimistic assumptions of a return to a Community-wide growth rate of 4 to 5 per cent, it is likely to mean continuing unemployment m the end of the decade of at least three million", Mr Thomson said.

Five million people were out of work in the EEC, many of them young; economic nationalism could offer no answers.

People had to learn to identify with Europe, Mr Thomson said, adding: "We need a deliberate and conscious effort to create a Europe of the common man and woman." Ordinary citizens needed to see the EEC dealing with the scourge of technological unemployment, and also giving the housewife a bigger voice against the farmers.

The "Community of the common man" would receive a great impetus from direct elections to the European Parliament, forging a direct link between the ordinary citizen and his Community.

There was no conflict between the rise of regional consciousness, which was going on throughout the EEC, and the idea of Community identity. Regionalism was a basically healthy development and the EEC, which had "tremendous survival power", was showing the same inner questioning as in Scotland.

Court test likely for oilfield rates demand

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

It is expected that a special case will be heard in the Court of Session at Edinburgh shortly, when oil companies will challenge a proposal by the Assessor for Fife to charge rates for two oilfields in the North Sea, the Auk and the Argyll.

An interim interdict granted by the court earlier this month to stop the Assessor from entering certain oilfields and installations in the North Sea in his valuation roll was withdrawn yesterday.

Mr James Mackay, QC, representing the Assessor, told the court that after discussions with the companies, Shell UK Ltd and Hamilton Brothers Gas and Oil Ltd, a more appropriate method had been devised to determine whether the Assessor was entitled to enter the oilfields in the valuation roll. Mr Mackay said that the interdict served no useful purpose.

Mr James Clyde, QC, who appeared for the oil companies, said the arrangement reached was satisfactory. The oil companies' position had been secured and, in the light of certain undertakings given, their rights safeguarded.

Banker divorced

Mr Charles Eric Hambro, aged 45, chairman of Hambros Bank Ltd, had a decree nisi granted against him in London yesterday on the ground of the breakdown of his marriage to Rose, aged 42, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, due to his adultery with Mrs Cherry Twiss.

Legal protection 'necessary for press' over closed shop

By Michael Horsnell

A claim that constitutional protection for the press may soon be necessary was made yesterday by the Guild of British Newspaper Editors. It was linked to another suggestion by the guild, that a moratorium should be imposed on the question of a journalists' closed shop in Fleet Street and the provinces until a press charter is drafted ensuring editorial freedom.

The guild, which was giving evidence to the Royal Commission on the Press, made clear that its proposals were made because of its apprehension about the general introduction of a closed shop.

But Professor Oliver McGregor, chairman of the commission, said it would be a "gross impertinence" for the commission to attempt to suggest a provisional charter; constitutional protection for the press was not a matter for the commission.

Mr Tom Cooke, president of the guild, said a closed shop could affect the independence of editors and newspapers and jeopardize free access to non-union contributors.

Mr Frank Owens, a past president, referred to a bulletin circulated in 1974 by International Socialist members of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ), which said that an attempt would be made to take control of the union. "The prelude to any form of dictatorship is to try to get control of the means of communications and manipulate it", he said, "and that is clearly the aim of the International Socialist element".

However, Professor McGregor who was asked to consider examples of what was said to be interference with editorial freedom by NUJ members, told Mr Owens: "You do not persuade me the apprehensions you state are supported by the instances you provide".

Mr Michael Finley, chairman of the guild's parliamentary and legal committee, said that recent incidents in Barnsley involving NUJ action formed the crux of the guild's case that editorial freedoms were at risk.

Earlier this year the Barnsley branch of the NUJ asked news sources in its area to refuse to cooperate with journalists who were not members of the union.

The guild, which represents 108 provincial newspapers, and is strongly against the concept of a closed shop, said that a press charter was not an ideal way of regulating newspaper freedoms, but the guild would take part in negotiations.

It called for an interim declaration of fundamental principles on the issue by the commission, but Professor McGregor rejected that suggestion.

The guild also criticized the amount of information that local authorities allow provincial newspapers. It said it had carried out a survey of 200 newspapers, which showed that in many cases information was being suppressed.

In 66 cases editors said they were dissatisfied with the cooperation of local authorities and a further 15 made serious complaints about the closing of local authority committees to the press and their failure to provide documents to newspapers.

Mr Tony Miles, editorial director of the Mirror group of newspapers, said that an NUJ closed shop existed at the *Daily Mirror* and that it had never been an impediment to the duties of the editor. He did not think that future closed shops would produce difficulties for the popular press.

The Mirror group defended the right of newspapers to adopt undercover tactics to obtain information. Mr Geoffrey Pinnington, editor of the *Sunday People*, told the commission that the freedom of the press would be endangered if such a right was removed.

He also defended the right of newspapers to invade the privacy of public figures and said that although unjustified invasions had been made, there were few cases of such activity.

Citing recent reports involving Lord George-Brown, who was photographed falling down outside the Houses of Parliament, and Lady Antonia Fraser after the break-up of her marriage, he said both were public figures and there could be no justification for the press's ignoring what had happened to them.

Mr Miles added: "In the case of Lord George-Brown, it was a public occasion [he had just resigned from the Labour Party] I think if he had slipped outside after a private party, the press would have been right not to publish. I do not know who we are supposed to be protecting by suppressing it."

Engineering firms reject plan for worker-directors

The Engineering Employers' Federation, which represents more than 5,000 engineering firms, has told the Bullock committee of inquiry on industrial democracy that acceptance of TUC proposals would be "a conferment on unions of special patronage at the expense of the national interest".

Under the TUC proposals the powers of boards of management would be split between a management board and a supervisory board; half of the members of the supervisory board would be workers' representatives.

Inquiry into child of seven in cell

By Penny Symon

Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, has ordered an immediate inquiry into the workings of the juvenile liaison scheme in Lancashire after a controversial documentary film showed a child of seven being interrogated in a police cell in Blackburn.

The film, which was made with £15,000 from the British Film Institute, was given a special showing to MPs at the House of Commons last week. Afterwards Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk, said he had found it terrifying and scandalous, and asked Mr Jenkins for an urgent review of the scheme. It enables police officers to caution young offenders rather than take them to court.

In a written reply to Mr Kilroy-Silk yesterday Mr Jenkins said the scheme had operated successfully in various parts of Britain for 20 years, and provided one way police could help children and parents.

"I share your disquiet at the accounts of circumstances in Lancashire to which you have drawn attention", Mr Jenkins said. "It would be regrettable if mistakes or shortcomings in one force discredited the general value of such schemes.

"I have therefore arranged for one of her Majesty's inspectors of constabulary to make a full report to me on the operation of the scheme in Lancashire. When I have studied this report I shall consider whether there is a need for me to issue general guidance on the subject to other police forces."

Mr Jenkins had been asked on what legal authority children aged seven were taken to police cells and interrogated. He replied that he believed there were some circumstances in which such interviews could most properly be carried out in police stations.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said: "I am very pleased that the Home Secretary has acted so speedily, so that there can be clarification as soon as possible of what is going on with this scheme."

Women call for urgent action on rural transport

By Our Transport Correspondent

The 500,000-strong National Federation of Women's Institutes yesterday accused the Government of "stalling" over the rapidly worsening crisis in rural public transport.

A forthcoming Bill providing for experimental studies over the next two years, details of which were disclosed in *The Times* on Tuesday, was described by Mrs Pat Jacob, the federation's national chairman, as "yet another unnecessary delay preventing practical action".

Manslaughter by car repair man, inquest jury says

A coroner's jury yesterday returned a manslaughter verdict against a man who carried out repairs to a car which later struck and fatally injured a woman after its brakes failed. The inquest was at Hornsey Coroner's Court, London.

Mr Hartley Marsh, a Post Office technician, of Buchanan Gardens, Willesden, London, and Mrs Panziana Cooke, of Inman Road, Willesden, the learner-driver of the car, which mounted the pavement and struck two women, were advised by Dr David Paul, the coroner, not to give evidence.

The incident occurred on August 21 at Craven Park, Willesden, and one of the two women pedestrians, Mrs Lilian Fisher, aged 74, of Craven Park, died in hospital.

In a statement to the inquest Mr Marsh said he had repaired the car over the past three years and had worked on it only a day or so before the accident. The brakes were then working.

Mrs Cooke, who was accompanied by a qualified driver and her husband and three children in the car, said in a statement that the brakes failed and the car mounted the pavement. Police constable William Brand told the court that he had examined the vehicle and found that the rubber in the nearside brake cylinder had perished, causing brake fluid to escape.

Tributes paid to Lord Montgomery

The Belgian Government sent a telegram of condolences to Britain yesterday on the death of Field Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein, saying the Belgian people would remember him with respect and gratitude.

The telegram, from Mr Renaat van Elslande, the Foreign Minister, to Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, said: "His bold thrust from the Seine to Antwerp during the first days of September, 1944, constituted one of the most spectacular exploits of the Second World War. He shortened the war by several months and made possible the liberation of Belgium almost without any letting of blood."

General Omar Bradley, aged 83, one of the leading Allied commanders of the war, who often differed with Lord Montgomery over campaign strategy, said last night in a statement issued by the Pentagon: "With the passing of Field Marshal Montgomery the world has lost a giant and I have lost a comrade in arms. Dear Monty liked to tweak our 'Yankee noses', as he himself called it, but he was a fine wartime leader."

Further tributes, page 16

Law body urges easier remedies against councils

By Our Legal Correspondent

A proposal to make it easier for a person to challenge decisions of public or local authorities in the courts is made by the Law Commission in a report published yesterday. It recommends that a new procedure, called an "application for judicial review" be made available.

The report points out that at present an applicant is in a dilemma over which of five possible actions to bring, each with its own procedures and its own consequences: mandamus, certiorari, prohibition, a declaration, and an injunction. Choosing the wrong one may effectively deny him justice.

Under the Law Commission's proposal, an applicant would be able to apply for a judicial review of the authority's decision to the Divisional Court, and the court would be able to grant the suitable remedy. It could at the same time award damages where appropriate.

Law Commission: Report No 73. Remedies in Administrative Law (Stationery Office, 75p).

CAA criticizes airlines over unapproved fares

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

British Airways and the Spanish airline, Iberia, were strongly criticized by the Civil Aviation Authority yesterday for advertising new fares to Spain without any indication that they did not have official approval.

The authority said yesterday that it had not approved the new fares as filed by the airlines and that passengers who had bought tickets in advance at high rates should ask for refunds.

At the same time, those buying fares at a low rate asked for by the airlines would be able to travel at these rates, even though the authority has told BA and Iberia that they must increase such rates out of Britain by 15 per cent.

The fares concerned are known as group three and are available on 15 scheduled service routes to holiday areas in Spain and Portugal for groups of three or more people from April 1.

To Palma, the CAA has approved a peak summer day group three fare of £78 (compared with £66 filed by the airlines) and in the spring and winter of £58.50 (compared with £51). It ordered that the normal economy return should remain at £128.50 (the airlines asked for an increase to £142).

The CAA said yesterday that it was concerned at the action taken by BA and Iberia, adding: "This kind of behaviour is quite unacceptable". The authority was to reexamine its approval of an International Air Transport Association resolution under which advertisements and sales could be made using the phrase "subject to Government approval".

Clergyman asks for church keys

Mr Norman Grieve, a solicitor acting for the Rev John Burley, who resigned as Rector of Redmarley, near Gloucester, last week after marrying a woman whose previous marriage had ended in divorce, said yesterday that he had told the parochial church council that Mr Burley had rescinded his resignation.

Mr Burley, who says that the Bishop of Worcester put pressure on him to resign, wants to be reinstated. He said he had asked the bishop to return to him the keys of the church

'Save water' plea after dry winter

The National Water Council yesterday appealed to consumers to use water carefully because reserves were at an all-time low level in some parts of England and Wales after a very dry winter. The council coordinates the 10 water authorities in England and Wales.

"Water supply prospects vary from place to place, but if the recent dry weather continues, severe restrictions on use could be required in some places before the summer is out", it said.

Privilege complaint about offer by European Ferries of extra 15p a share if Felixstowe Bill fails

House of Commons

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) raised a point of order arising from the debate last night on the British Transport Docks (Felixstowe) Bill, which received its second reading by 223 votes to 179—majority, 44.

He said it had been made abundantly clear, on at least a couple of occasions and on one occasion by the MP for Ipswich (Mr Kenneth Weetch, Lab), during that debate that European Ferries had made a substantial offer to buy the shares of Felixstowe Port and to insert then that an additional 15p would be paid on the basis that members of Parliament would vote that Bill down. The proposers of the offer, European Ferries, were inducing MPs to vote in a certain way. If some had shares of their own, they could benefit themselves.

References were made to MPs holding shares in that company and having sold, on the basis of this offer.

A document said: "Provided the British Transport Docks (Felixstowe) Bill in its original or in a modified form currently before Parliament does not receive Royal Assent, ordinary stockholders who accept the offer will be paid an additional amount of 15p in cash for each ordinary stock unit of Felixstowe Dock within 21 days of the Bill being withdrawn or otherwise lapsing."

The Bill was still proceeding as a result of last night's debate, but it had to go through the processes in the House so this needed to be scrutinized by the Speaker.

Other suggestions of breach of privilege had been raised on the basis of statements by trade union leaders in the recent and long past about possible inducements of MPs to vote in a certain way. These had been established as prima facie cases for the committee to examine.

On that basis, Mr Speaker (he said) you should look at that document and examine whether there has been a breach of privilege, as a result of the publication, to influence MPs to vote in a certain way on a Bill before the House of Commons.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas)—I am obliged to Mr Skinner for the way he has presented his question, and I shall, following precedents, give my ruling tomorrow.

Mr Brian Sedgemore (Luton, West, Lab)—In view of the proceedings on the Bill yesterday, can you not, on some future occasion, give some advice on voting procedures in private business. Some MPs declared an interest, some a direct interest, in the Felixstowe Company. If the voting lists are to be believed, some voted and some did not.

You will have been aware, Mr Speaker, that votes have been disallowed over private Bills where people voting have had an interest, sometimes direct, sometimes indirect.

On May 20, 1825, when the House was debating the Leith Docks Bill, which is appropriate to yesterday's debate, one MP voted on it, he said inadvertently, and the vote was expunged from the record.

As private Bills appear to be whipped on both sides and MPs are encouraged to go into the lobby, it would seem appropriate for you to give guidance on the way MPs should conduct themselves over these matters.

The Speaker—It is a dangerous position for the occupant of the Chair to guide people as to their conduct within the division lobby. The rules of the House are there for all MPs to read.

The facts are largely as he said about 1825 when the vote was disallowed by the decision of the House because the vote of that particular person was challenged immediately after the division.

In this case it should have been raised, if there was a challenge last night, immediately after the division.

I will consider what he said but I doubt if there will be much advantage in my making a further statement on it.

Mr Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C)—We are in something of a dilemma because if the Bill last night did not pass then we understand there might have been benefit to shareholders in the Felixstowe Dock and Railway Company. On the other hand, if the Bill did pass and in due course becomes law there is damage to all MPs because it will involve another sum of £5.28m which will have to be raised in taxes.

It does not matter whether the pecuniary advantage is through having lower taxes or having higher prices. (Labour interruptions.)

The Speaker—Mr Ridley must not involve me in argument between both sides. I shall be looking at the question of privilege. I do not want to discuss anything related to it until I have discussed it.

Mr Norman Buchan (West Renfrewshire, Lab)—You referred, Mr Speaker, to the precedent of the 1825 Act and the fact that the voting of certain people or one person was challenged immediately after the vote. I do not understand the procedure prevailing in 1825 but I am aware of the procedures prevailing in 1976.

We have no means of knowing who has and who has not voted until the lists formally appear in *Hansard* published today. I would ask you to keep that in mind so that we do not accept the precedent as a total precedent but perhaps as a guide to action. This is the first occasion on which it could have been raised in this particular fashion.

The Speaker—I understand no challenge has been made against any member individually. It is a general statement which the hon member has made.

Mr Frederick Burden (Gillingham, C)—Is it not a fact that unless a member had shares in the particular company, and therefore if the Bill failed he would receive an extra 15p for every share he had, and unless there are such MPs who actually voted in the lobby against the Bill, it destroys the whole of this allegation.

The Speaker—I will consider all the matters raised.

Butter price could rise by 9p a pound

The price of butter could rise by 8p or 9p a pound by the end of the year and the price of cheese by 5p or 6p, Mr Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in reply to a question.

Mr Raphael Tuck (Watford, Lab) had asked: Bearing in mind that even before the latest staggering increases, the EEC price of butter was more than three times the world price of butter, what proportion of this increase will be due to Britain's membership of the Common Market?

Mr Bishop (Newark, Lab)—It is difficult to give an exact reply. If changes in EEC prices agreed at Brussels are fully reflected at retail level the price of butter could rise by 8p or 9p a pound by the end of the year and the price of cheese could rise by 5p or 6p a pound.

The bulk of these increases are the result of our obligations under the Treaty of Accession, under which we are committed to bring United Kingdom prices to EEC prices by 1978. The Treaty of Accession was negotiated by the Conservative Government.

Mr Geraint Howells (Cardigan, L)—Does Mr Bishop agree that the price review will increase dairy farm production to his satisfaction.

Mr Bishop—Yes. This is an important point.

Mr Francis Pym, Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Cambridgeshire, C)—Does Mr Bishop agree with Commissioner Lardinois when he said that Britain's membership of the EEC meant that food in this country had been cheaper than it would otherwise have been.

Mr Bishop—Yes. I also agree with Commissioner Lardinois when he said Mr Peart had got a good package from his recent proposals.

Mr Richard Crawshaw (Liverpool, Toxteth, Lab)—Only a few months ago margarine manufacturers were complaining that because of the cheapness of butter they were unable to sell their product.

Mr Bishop—This is a matter for consumer choice.

Tighter security at Palace of Westminster

There was no reason to suppose that a man employed on a casual basis in the Commons recently and the subject of press stories was or had been a member of the IRA, Mr Edward Short, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said in a statement.

He said: The man who has been the subject of stories in the press in the last few days was employed in the House on a casual basis between March 3 and March 22, when I understand the need for his services came to an end, when the man he was replacing returned to duty that day.

Mr Speaker, I am sure you and the House will not expect me to comment in detail on this particular case, other than to say that there is no reason to suspect that the person concerned either has been or is a member of the IRA.

This incident has, however, highlighted the security problems which are inherent in the employment of casual labour and I held a meeting yesterday between those responsible for employment and those responsible for security to consider what could be done to tighten up the existing arrangements.

Certain measures have already been agreed and those concerned are considering urgently what further improvements are possible.

Mr Michael Brotherton (Louth, C)—Is Mr Short satisfied with security arrangements for this place, bearing in mind the architectural limitations of the Palace of Westminster? We must accept that there is a certain amount of risk for those who work here, but we should be concerned not only for the safety of MPs but all who work here.

On the employment of casual labour, can he assure us that some form of screening will be introduced so that people who might put this place at risk will not be employed here on a temporary or permanent basis?

Mr Short—No, I am not satisfied with the security of this building. We are constantly reviewing and trying to improve it.

The previous Speaker (Mr Selwyn Lloyd) asked Sir James Starrit to conduct an investigation and to prepare a report on security. This report is in the Speaker's hands and I understand he will shortly be making a statement to the House on it.

The additional measures about casual staff are that we are going to ensure a much closer liaison between the police and the departments employing casual labour; there will be much more stringent proof of identity; search arrangements will be tightened up; and there will be much stricter control of the movement of casual workers in the Palace of Westminster. Other measures will be taken as well.

Mr Raphael Tuck (Watford, Lab)—Why is it that people who come in as visitors to Westminster Hall have their bags opened and examined, while someone who comes here to work is not screened and has complete freedom all over the building?

Mr Short—We are going to limit the areas of the building in which casual workers can move and the police will know where they are working.

Mr Keith Stainton (Sudbury and Woodbridge, C), on a point of order to the Speaker—Would it not be in the best interests not to pursue this matter further? (Cheers.)

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas)—I shall be making a statement in the very near future.

Mr Short—All casual workers come in by one entrance at Chancellor's Gate and there is a strict check on them.

Mr William Whitelaw, Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Penrith and the Border, C)—Anyone who has had responsibility as Leader of the House knows of the difficulty of balancing the need to ensure the working of Parliament with the need for security. We would support the measures the Lord President has taken.

An incident like this gives all concerned the opportunity to remind everyone of their duties and to stop the inevitable slackness which always develops on security so long as nothing goes wrong.

Mr Short—There are two difficulties.

We have to hold a balance between a free Parliament with reasonable access to the public and Draconian restrictions on the other hand; and we have the problem of running a department which caters for 2,000 people a day—a demand which fluctuates from day to day and hour to hour—without employing casual labour.

Army and police in Ulster tired of politically motivated criticism

The object of Government security policy in Northern Ireland was to eradicate terrorism from the province said Mr Merlyn Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Leeds, South, Lab), opening a debate on Northern Ireland affairs. More people were being brought before the courts by the security forces, but by itself this was insufficient.

The terrorist (he said) will continue to exist so long as he has enough public support to provide him with a safe haven. The terrorist can no longer be sure of this in Northern Ireland because increasingly people know the terrorist there for what he is.

Now that no one was in detention in minority areas, there had been a change of attitude reflected by increased cooperation given to the security forces in dealing with terrorists. It was essential to operate through the law. The Government were constantly considering how to improve the law in a way that would be accepted as fair and just.

The Government had been urged to adopt a similar provision to that in the Irish Republic under which prosecutions could rest on a declaration by a chief superintendent of the Garda, that to the best of his belief a man was a member of the IRA.

I understand why this provision can be used in the Republic (he said) but to translate it to Northern Ireland, where there is a divided community, would not be acceptable. It would set back the acceptability of the police throughout the community which, above all, is important in pursuing terrorism.

There would be no hesitation in bringing in fresh legislation to assist the security forces in dealing with terrorism. The report of the Law Commission on conspiracy and criminal law reform, published on Tuesday, was being studied with particular regard to its application to Northern Ireland.

Sometimes there was wilful ignorance in Northern Ireland by some people of what was being achieved on security, in spite of official statistics and a press campaign there to give factual information.

The Army and the police (he said) get tired of politically motivated criticisms of their activities. The successes of the RUC and the Army, aided by the significantly growing number of people who voluntarily give information to the police, provide hope for the future.

This year 274 people had been charged with terrorist offences including 45 with murder or attempted murder. The security forces had found or neutralized over 15,000 lbs of explosives.

These remarkable figures did not indicate inactivity by the security forces. Nor did they support the shameful allegations that for some incomprehensible political reason, the Government are restraining the security forces in Northern Ireland.

Too little was heard of the successes in recovering explosives in the past two months and it was sometimes said that the security forces were deliberately inactive.

In 1975 nearly five million vehicle searches had been made and 30,092 house searches, with 377 travelling gunmen charged. It was for the General Officer Commanding to decide how to deploy his troops and it would not be in the public interest to disclose details of troop movements. They were discussed too openly in Northern Ireland, where those the Government were trying to apprehend could learn of them from television and radio.

Terrorists must be concerned at the recovery of explosives by the two Governments. That of the Republic had had conspicuous success this year in dealing with terrorists.

We recovered five tons in 1975 (he said) and have almost recovered the same amount in 1976. I understand that some seven tons of explosive has been found in the South recently, a good deal of it in transit to the North.

Public opinion polls indicating that many in Ulster accepted with equanimity and even approval the idea of continued direct rule were not too far off the mark. But if right, those polls showed also a worrying increase in those prepared to accept violence to further political aims.

They must increase security efforts and he would renew the Emergency Provisions Act in the summer. He would also renew the direct rule legislation.

Mr Airey Neave, chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland (Abingdon, C), said direct rule should not only be positive but sensitive to local feeling. The so-called ceasefire had not reduced violence, it had only changed its nature.

The Opposition failed to see any advantage to be gained from talks with the Provisional Sinn Fein. The IRA was clearly committed to a renewed campaign in Britain and Northern Ireland.

So long as the so-called talks continued the public in Britain and in Northern Ireland would quite understandably doubt the determination to win. The IRA had no negotiable objectives and even if they had, they should not be allowed to gain them by murder and destruction.

The Government should provide the security forces with adequate powers under the law to bring culprits to justice and remove them from circulation. Present procedures should be examined to see whether they could be amended or improved to assist the security forces.

Violent and ruthless men meant to impose a rule of terror in which no one would give evidence against them. If detention was not being used, the Government should examine ways of giving witnesses more protection in the courts.

Mr Rees—At ministerial level we are looking into this matter.

Mr Neave said he hoped that the question of intimidation was in the minds of the ministers.

There was a need for a legal solution to membership of these organizations. The ability of Martin McGuiness to avoid prosecution made this essential.

The Opposition believed that by one means or another the men of violence must be removed from the streets, if the ceasefire were to end and there was renewed terrorism and intimidation. These people must be dealt with. They would give the Government all possible support in any strengthening of the law they decided on to achieve that end.

Mr Peart's dislike of skimmed milk plan

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) asked the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food what was the present level of stocks of skimmed milk powder in the United Kingdom.

Mr Frederick Peart (Workington, Lab)—Stocks of skimmed milk powder in EEC intervention stores on March 12 were 1,158,000 metric tonnes of which 29,000 metric tonnes were held by the United Kingdom Intervention Board.

These stocks have accumulated over several years as a result of the operation of the system of intervention purchases and sales by which the common agricultural policy underpins the market. As these transactions take place continuously it is not possible to state the total cost of the balance in store at any one time.

Mr Winterton—Will it not cost the British farmers at least an extra £28m to pay for the 60,000 tonnes which will be imported if the incorporation scheme is accepted. This will be particularly unfair to poultry and pig farmers and make a nonsense of the Government policy to peg costs.

Mr Peart—He is exaggerating. It is 40,000 tonnes in stock. I do not like the incorporation system and have said so in Brussels. I am in touch with the trade and I want to make it as smooth as possible for them.

Mr Neil Marten (Banbury, C)—This mountain illustrates the absurdity of the intervention system. His Brussels decision was entirely contrary to the wishes of the House, why did he do it?

Mr Peart—Mr Marten was a member of the scrutiny committee which said any further consideration of the scheme need not delay its adoption by the Council if this was necessary in the course of negotiations to achieve a satisfactory settlement of the package.

Mr Norman Buchan (West Renfrewshire, Lab)—The skimmed milk proposal and prices ensures the continuation of the mountain. The consequent cost of incorporating it is four times that of any other additives, and will add £6m to the poultry consumer and industry.

Mr Peart—I have criticized the scheme, but I am anxious that we should have a working scheme. It is a once-and-for-all proposal and I hope it will not be exaggerated.

Mr Michael Jopling, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Westmorland, C)—Will Mr Peart renegotiate the scheme if it turns out, as seems likely, to be universally condemned in the House and the trade?

Mr Peart—I am prepared to debate the scheme, but that is a matter for the Leader of the House. But it would be wrong to have held up the whole package on the price review by sticking firmly against the scheme.

Bill of Rights would alter role of courts

House of Lords

Lord Wade (L) moved the second reading of the Bill of Rights Bill, which he said provided that the principles set out in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights should have the force of law and should be enforceable by action in United Kingdom courts. It should be part of the domestic law.

The convention was approved by the Council of Europe in 1950. It came into force in 1953 and was ratified by 10 countries. It was ratified by the United Kingdom in 1951. Since 1966 individual complainants in the United Kingdom had had the right, subject to rules about admissibility, to petition to the European Commission and ultimately to the Human Rights Court in Strasbourg.

Eight countries had gone further and incorporated the convention into their domestic law. The United Kingdom had not yet done so.

It had been argued by some jurists that the ratifying of the convention and the incorporation into domestic law should be regarded as an obligation in the light of the wording of Article 1, which stated: "The high contracting parties shall secure to everyone within their jurisdiction the rights and freedoms defined in section 1 of the convention". The Bill gave effect to that obligation.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, for the Opposition, said he did not believe a private member's Bill altering the constitution was really on. It was a much more tricky task than that which Lord Wade had outlined.

It would alter, among other things, the whole relationship between the judiciary, executive, and legislature.

A proposal such as a Bill of Rights should first be examined by referring it to a select committee so that the evidence of the judiciary, parliamentary draftsmen, trade unionists, and others could be considered and then reported back to the House.

The technical difficulties of such a Bill had been gravely under-estimated. There were 20 or 30 volumes of statutes under the clerk's table, each more than 1,000 pages in length.

If such a Bill was enacted it could be said, in relation to any one of those sections in the statute books: "This is inconsistent with the Bill of Rights".

Show me a nation (he said) with a Bill of Rights and I will show you a nation with less actual rights than Britain because the escape clauses are used often and ruthlessly by the executive. It is therefore to some extent a bogus protection.

Putting top dogs, especially when they happened to be elected by rather a small minority, in charge of the people was not government of the people by the people for the people it was elective dictatorship.

Lord Gardiner said that over the past 30 years the executive and to some extent the bureaucracy had gained in power at the expense of Parliament and the people. Parliament must do what it could to improve its powers.

There was a strong and growing international movement for international rights. It would be sad if the United Kingdom did not play its full part in it. Devolution would probably require it before long.

A Bill of Rights would have a major educational effect. If it was right to have such a Bill, there was a serious question about what form it should take. The European Convention was the best one, and there was the advantage that the United Kingdom had accepted it.

Lord Lloyd of Hampstead (Lab) said that the Bill aimed at the control of Parliament because it was complained that Parliament encroached on human rights. There were powerful reasons for opposing that situation. It would bring the judiciary right into the arena of political controversy.

It was a traditional wisdom of the system that judges were better kept out of political decision-making. It was an illusion to think that applying these vague general words of the European Convention was a task comparable to interpreting the words of an ordinary statute.

Did Parliament want to hand over effective decisions in policy matters in, for instance, comprehensive education, development rights in land, the wearing of seat belts, and the closed shop, to a judiciary which had no pretensions to assuming that invidious mantle.

Surely Parliament, with all its faults, was better qualified for assuming that political role of making choices? A Bill of Rights would transfer the political battles from Parliament to the courts. The experience of the Industrial Relations Act, 1971, did not afford an encouraging precedent.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said the House should be cautious before giving the Bill a second reading, because it would be contrary to all the historical traditions of Britain that the courts could set aside any section or any part of an Act of Parliament.

The supremacy of Parliament (he said) is one of the pillars of our constitution.

If the judges were given power to overthrow sections of Acts they would become political and their appointments would be based on political grounds and their reputation would suffer accordingly.

The independence of our judges (he went on) is the other pillar of our society.

Lord Brockway (Lab) said he supported the Bill but there was not yet a consensus in Britain in favour of such a measure. But there was such a consensus in Northern Ireland and a Bill of Rights for the Province was more urgent.

Lord Banks (L) said many people believed such a Bill was now necessary in the new constitutional setting in which Britain found itself in its membership of the EEC and the prospect of devolution.

Much more of the British constitution would be written than previously and the case for a fully written one would grow stronger.

Lord Harris of Greenwich, Minister of State, Home Office, said that the introduction of a Bill of Rights would have significant implications for the essential aspects of the constitution. The distinctive feature of such a Bill was that it enunciated a set of fundamental rights in broad and general terms which needed to be expanded, filled out and interpreted by the courts or some other independent authority. Not least of the implications of this Bill would be its effect on the role of the judiciary.

The task of interpreting a Bill of Rights would take the courts and judges well beyond the range of the relatively narrow role they had had. The generality of the provisions would give them more latitude and provide less guidance than was available to them in interpreting legislation. They would have to balance conflicting values, not merely moral or social but political in spheres that had been the preserve of Parliament.

The Government's acceptance of the convention as binding in international law in no way required them to incorporate that provision into the domestic legal system. All that was required was that the United Kingdom law and the way it was administered should conform to the convention and not be inconsistent with it. The Government had sympathy with Lord Wade's intentions, but they had doubts about certain aspects of the Bill.

The Government were some way yet from being ready to form an informed and balanced judgment. In the Government's view the need was for wide public discussion so that they could begin to form such a judgment.

Last year they set up a working group of officials from the departments principally concerned to study the implications of general legislation on human rights. Among other things they examined was what could be involved in incorporating the convention into the domestic law. The results of that study could make an important contribution to public understanding of the complex issues. The Home Secretary intended shortly to make them available in a discussion document.

The Bill was read a second time.

House adjourned, 7.11 pm.

New moves by Cuba would cause concern

During questions to the Prime Minister about southern Africa, Mr Peter Blaker (Blackpool, South, C) said: Since the British Government have been in touch with the South African Government about the withdrawal of the remaining South African troops from Angola, may I direct the attention of the Prime Minister to the presence of much more numerous Cuban forces still in that country.

Since Dr Fidel Castro made a statement last week in Conakry in which he implied that Cuba may have a role to play in other countries in southern Africa, it is important that those Cuban forces should be withdrawn. What are the Government doing about that?

Mr Harold Wilson (Huyton, Lab)—The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Mr Callaghan) has made clear, as I have, our views about intervention in Angola, but the Cubans have not, in the last few weeks, been requested by any other country in the area to intervene in their territory. If they were to intervene in any other territory, there would be a new and extremely serious situation and this is something we have made clear to all concerned in recent weeks.

Mr George Gardiner (Reigate, C) said Mr Gromyko had dismissed any question of possible Soviet involvement in Rhodesia as a fairy tale.

Since (he went on) Angola was clearly not a fairy tale, did the Prime Minister secure an assurance from Mr Gromyko while he was in London that Soviet equipment will not be used to support aggression across any frontiers in southern Africa?

Mr Wilson—We have made clear our view, both in the meetings I had on my own initiative with the Soviet Ambassador a week or two ago and in the most recent talks, on the question of any overseas intervention in what was previously British territory in that part of Africa.

Mr Ioan Evans (Aberdare, Lab)—Now that Mr Harold Macmillan's winds of change are reaching gale force in Rhodesia, and in view of the fact that all leaders in this House are supporting changes to reduce racial discrimination in that part of the world, will the Leader of the Opposition support the stand of the United Nations, Organization of African Unity and others?

Mr Wilson—Successive governments, Labour in the 1960s and Conservative in the 1970s, negotiated and discussed with Mr Smith, but no solution was forthcoming which any British government could accept. That is still the position. Mrs Thatcher will agree that we have laid down standards throughout binding on all parties in the House. Even if in the famous debate when the Conservative Party split three ways the record of their own government in office has fully confirmed the line we have all taken in this matter.

Chairman of NCB decision shortly

Mr Alexander Eadie, Under Secretary for Energy (Midlothian, Lab), moving that five orders concerning the coal industry be approved, said three of them dealt with benefits for redundant mineworkers and two with grants for coal and coke stocks and production and supply of coking coal.

Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson an Opposition spokesman on energy (New Forest, C), said that amid a lot of news about the coal industry there was, for instance, the unseemly situation of a search for a chairman of the National Coal Board in public. It had been an unfortunate and humiliating sight for all to see.

I hope the day will come (he said) when the chairmen of nationalized industries are not treated just like ministers' office boys but with the dignity one hopes they will be able to enjoy to do their jobs properly. (Some Conservative cheers.)

Local concessionary coal agreements were costing about £33m a year. This needed looking at afresh to see if they could secure a national agreement on what was one of the perks of the industry.

They should get back to a reasonable export trade for coal. It never failed to sicken him that 30 per cent of all the coal imported by the EEC was coming from iron curtain countries.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said he did not believe that the secretaries, shorthand typists, filing clerks, canteen workers and Mrs Mopps were forcing concessionary coal out of the industry. At a time when the nationalized industries were losing a fortune annually and the less well-off and particularly the old age pensioners were having to pay a savage increase in coal prices, could it be sensible to extend this concession of approximately one ton of coal a month or its value to all manner of women employees who neither needed nor expected it?

If they needed a concession of this kind, why were they not given it before?

Mr Eadie said the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Wedgwood Benn) hoped to make an announcement shortly about the chairmanship of the National Coal Board.

He had no intention at the moment that the figures of pit closures would jump substantially. It was a matter for the NCB.

The orders were approved.

'Utterly deplorable' allegations

The Rev Robert Bradford (Belfast, South, UUUC) said there was an unhealthy dependence on traditional industries in Northern Ireland.

There was a prospect of Harland and Wolff introducing a conveyor belt system for repairing ships. The yard had tendered for 55 defence contracts and got 14, none in the last six years.

Mr Stanley Orme, Minister of State, Northern Ireland (Salford, West, Lab), said the defence side was being looked at, but in civil shiprepairing, unfortunately, they could not attract shiprepairing because crews of ships would not bring them to Belfast and stay there.

Mr Samuel Silkin, Attorney General (Southwark, Dulwich, Lab), said that allegations had recently been made in court by a Mr Taylor, representing a client before the Belfast resident magistrate, that the police and prosecuting authorities deliberately charged people with murder when the evidence could in no way justify that charge. Mr Taylor had gone on to say that the complicity of the Director of Public Prosecutions in that fraud was unreservedly deplorable.

I am bound to say (he said) that in regard to the words used by Mr Taylor, they are unreservedly deplorable and irresponsible and totally lacking in any foundation in fact.

Out of 275 people charged with scheduled murder offences under the 1973 Act, 42 had the charge withdrawn before the committal stage. There were various reasons why this happened.

In some cases, evidence of identification could not be regarded as sufficiently strong to enable a case to be proved and there had been cases where witnesses simply refused to give evidence. In nine cases the accused had been arrested in circumstances suggesting complicity but after lengthy investigation the charges were withdrawn.

The allegations were utterly deplorable, particularly that of fraud against the Director of Public Prosecutions who had done such admirable work in Northern Ireland.

The Government were giving careful consideration to the possibility of new offences concerned with terrorism. If they could bring in an addition which filled the gap in the existing law, he had no doubt they would do so.

Mr Gerard Fitt (Belfast, West, SDLP) said a lot of people had told him of harassment by the military for no understandable purpose. This sort of thing could inflame passions and opinions.

On economic matters, when they could not attract investment the Government had a responsibility to try to create commercial development. He was not convinced that there was close enough cooperation between the Government and the trade union movement.

Mr Philip Goodhart (Bromley, Beckenham, C) said there was a common characteristic of almost all the people arrested and brought before the courts for terrorist offences: they were invariably extremely stupid, and the dimmest members of the community on both sides.

We do not (he said) expect people of high intelligence to join the Provisional IRA or the UVF, but the level of intelligence of those people being arrested at the moment and being imprisoned, does suggest that we are only getting the bomb carriers, the bomb throwers and the lowest level of gunmen. It is the top level of terrorists who are going largely untouched at the moment. This is causing substantial alarm and concern among the security forces.

The Rev Ian Paisley (Antrim, North, UUUC) said the first priority for Northern Ireland people was security, and the ordinary man was less interested in forms of government than the safety of his family and to live, work and enjoy life.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, UUUC) said the time had come to make an important advance. They needed to bring to bear the instrumentality of a select committee. Nothing could replace for the purpose of reassuring the public and answering doubts and difficulties, the opportunity to pursue issues relentlessly by inquiry and interrogation.

Mr Orme said the Government could not countenance the discussion of security matters in such a committee. That would be ruled out.

Mr Powell said he was sorry that Mr Orme had slammed that door before there had been a chance to look at it. Many matters were investigated by Commons select committees in which national security was involved and sensitive material dealt with. The committees found a way to get over that difficulty. Such ways of getting over it might have to be found in a select committee dealing with Northern Ireland affairs.

Sir Michael Havers, Opposition spokesman on legal affairs (Merton, Wimbledon, C), said he found it inconceivable that there could be any political influence upon the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland. For one thing he would not put up with it.

The difficulty of persuading witnesses to give evidence was not experienced, by and large, in the rest of the United Kingdom. It was a major difficulty and he hoped the Government would again consider anonymity in respect of some witnesses.

Mr Orme, replying to requests that the Army be seen more in areas like South Armagh and South Derry, said that sometimes the Army was operating more efficiently when it was not seen than when it was.

Some stupid statements had been made by Mr Harry West, and had not helped the Army who were extremely annoyed about some criticisms.

Next Thursday he would announce some of the appointments to the Northern Ireland Development Agency which would have £50m at its disposal for investment, a substantial sum for the province. Public expenditure figures for Northern Ireland indicated that there was no question of economic withdrawal or sanctions.

The debate concluded.

House adjourned, 10.23 pm.

Next week

Business in the House of Commons

MONDAY: Debate on direct elections to the European Assembly. Rating (Caravan Sites) Bill, remaining stages. TUESDAY: Debate on direct elections to the European Assembly. Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths Inquiry (Scotland) Bill and Damages (Scotland) Bill, remaining stages. WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY: Debate on defence. FRIDAY: Private members' motions on British industry and on local government in England.

Business in the House of Lords

MONDAY: Debate on direct elections to the European Assembly. Debatable question on rates on charity shops. TUESDAY: Freshwater and Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill, and Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill second reading. Debatable question on Nato. WEDNESDAY: Debate on United Kingdom universities. Debatable question on rabies. THURSDAY: Seychelles Bill, second reading. Debate on EEC committee reports on the environment. Debatable question on Hongkong.

Royal Assent

Royal Assent was signified to the following Acts: Consolidated Fund, Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages and Hours of Work), Trustee Savings Banks, Education (School-leaving Dates), Solicitors (Scotland), Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment), Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions), Water Charges, and Post Office (Banking Services).

Contingency plans for Rhodesians

Lord Barnby (C) asked the Government to indicate what criteria were used to define urgent compassionate grounds with regard to the issue to holders of Rhodesian passports of travel permits to this country.

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office—Each application is considered on its individual merits.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone—If the situation in Rhodesia is anything like as serious as we are led to believe, will there not be a large number of applications to come to this country from that country, and is it not essential that there should be widespread contingency planning as to the way in which they should be dealt?

Lord Goronwy-Roberts—I can give the assurance that any contingency planning that is found to be necessary will be engaged in.

£54m from EEC

Mr Noel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a written reply, said: The United Kingdom contributed £342m to the Community budget during 1975; receipts in the same period totalled £396m; receipts therefore exceeded contributions by £54m. Payments to the Community budget are made monthly, on the basis of the United Kingdom's share of the cost of financing Community expenditure during the following month.

Increase in number of lay magistrates

Mr Samuel Silkin, Attorney General, in a written reply, said the number of lay magistrates on the active list in England and Wales on January 1, 1976, was 21,929. The comparable figure for 1971 was 19,250 and for 1966, 15,250.

Pakistani immigrants

Mr Alexander Lyon, Minister of State, Home Office, in a written reply, said the estimated number of citizens of Pakistan accepted for settlement in the United Kingdom on arrival and on removal of the time limit attached to their stay in 1975 was 7,700 (including 6,300 dependants).

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 11.00: Private member's motion on erosion of personal liberty. Private members' Bills, second reading.

Police cell interrogation of children: report ordered

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk, Lab) asked if the Home Secretary would call for a report from the Chief Constable of Lancashire on the specific circumstances in which seven-year-olds had been interrogated in police cells, and if he would undertake an urgent review of the working of the juvenile liaison scheme?

Mr Roy Jenkins, in a written reply, said: Juvenile liaison schemes have operated successfully in various parts of the country in the last 20 years and provide one means by which police officers can help both children and their parents.

I share Mr Kilroy-Silk's disquiet at the accounts of circumstances in Lancashire to which he has drawn attention; it would be regrettable if mistakes or shortcomings in one force discredited the general value of such schemes.

I have therefore arranged for one of HM Inspectors of Constabulary to make a full report to me on the operation of the scheme in Lancashire.

When I have received and studied this report, I shall consider whether there is a need for me to issue general guidance on the subject to other police forces.

Mr Kilroy-Silk asked what was the legal authority for police to interrogate children of seven years of age in police stations.

Mr Jenkins, in a written reply, said: The questioning of persons, of whatever age, at police stations does not rest in general on any specific statutory authority, but arises from the performance by the police of their functions, in particular in connexion with the prevention and detection of crime.

Chief officers of police are well aware of the guidance on the interrogation of children and young persons (whether suspected of crime or not) contained in the administrative directions appended to the Judges' Rules, which provides inter alia that as far as practicable children should be interviewed in the presence of a parent or guardian.

Science report

Obstetrics: Induction of labour

Emotions are still running high in the debate about the merits of induction of labour, so that it is perhaps unfortunate that conclusive data are not yet available.

One of the units where induction was introduced some years ago is the Welsh National School of Medicine in Cardiff, and the results of the treatment policy in its maternity unit between 1965 and 1973 have been reviewed.

During that period the number of births each year dropped from 4,846 in 1965 to 3,781 in 1973, the age of the pregnant women fell and the incidence of induction of labour rose from 7.5 per cent in 1965 to 26.5 per cent in 1973.

The proportion of accelerated labours (in which the hormone oxytocin was given to speed up the contractions of the uterus) rose from 0.3 per cent in 1965 to 16.7 per cent in 1973. Labour lasting more than 12 hours fell from 27 per cent of all cases in 1965 to only 9 per cent in 1973.

In spite of these changes in the management of labour, there was little change in its outcome as measured by perinatal mortality (stillbirths and deaths shortly after birth). In the country as a whole the perinatal deathrate for every thousand births dropped from 27 in 1965 to 21 in 1973; in Cardiff it remained more or less constant at 25.

Reporting those results, the Welsh obstetricians comment that their apparently unchanging perinatal mortality figures present a depressing picture for which there is no obvious explanation.

In the Oxford region, in contrast, a rise in the proportion of induced births from 22 per cent in 1965 to 35 per cent in 1972 was accompanied by a drop in perinatal mortality from 20 to 16 for every thousand, most of which was caused by a reduction in the number of stillbirths.

Commenting on those two studies in a leading article, the *British Medical Journal* says that an induction rate of 30 per cent cannot be justified on any claim for dramatic improvements in perinatal mortality; but that induction can be used to ensure that labour and delivery of women with risk factors take place in optimal conditions.

Resentment by women of induction arises, the article says, not from the procedure itself but from the fact that an adequate explanation was not given to them about why it was necessary for the obstetrician to intervene.

"If there is a lesson that comes out of the induction debate", it concludes, "it is that we as doctors must, whenever possible, ensure that our patients are made to feel that they have taken part in decisions that affect their lives."

By Our Medical Correspondent.

Source: *British Medical Journal*, March 27, page 729.

HOME NEWS

Construction firm fined £675,000 in 'lump' fraud case and three senior executives jailed

One of Britain's biggest con-
ruction companies, J. Murphy
d Sons Ltd, of Highbury,
ndon, was fined £675,000 at
e Central Criminal Court yes-
day after being found guilty
Wednesday of a plot to
fraud the Inland Revenue of
re than £850,000 in "lump"
yments to workers.

Three of the firm's senior
ecutives were sentenced to
ree years' imprisonment and
ed £10,000 each for plotting
cheat and defraud the Inland
venue over 26 months.

They were Florence Felix
Carthy, aged 37, the company
cretary, of Leicester Road,
w Barnet; Michael Holly,
ed 37, the managing director,
Chaseside, Southgate; James
pleton, aged 36, the financial
ector, of Oaklands, Winch-
re Hill, all London.

Murphy's sister company,
M. Piling Ltd, was fined
,000. The sentences were
ssed by Judge King-Hamilton,
, who ordered that Murphy's
ould pay prosecution costs of
2,200.

Other sentences were:
omas Clancy, aged 33, a com-
ny director, of Hay Lane,
icklewood, London, jailed for
months, and fined £1,500;
Timothy Slattery, aged 32,
ntracts manager, of Milton
enue, Highgate, London, 12
onths' imprisonment, sus-
nded for two years, and fined
,500;
Thomas Enright, aged 46, a
eman, of Elton Avenue, Sud-
ry, Middlesex, 12 months'
il, suspended for one year,
d fined £1,000; Martin
oley, aged 44, wages manager,
Kingshill Avenue, Kenton,
ndon, 12 months' jail, sus-
nded for one year, and fined
,000; and Frederick Chute,
ed 27, now unemployed, of
stowel, Republic of Ireland,
o years' jail, suspended for
o years, and fined £500.

The total in fines and costs
s £837,700.

The Judge said: "I find it
fficult to speak with modera-
on when a large, well known and highly efficient and hither-to highly respected company, through some of its directors and higher executive officers, engages on a gigantic fraud of this kind, carried on over two years".

The offence was aggravated by the fact that a number of hard-working servants of the company had been suborned, not only into taking part in the conspiracy but to commit "the most blatant perjury".

Mr John Leonard, QC, for the prosecution, said at the beginning of the trial that the Inland Revenue was cheated out of £1,468,356, but yesterday he said that was not realistic, because the figure was based on a 30 per cent tax deduction.

The building workers would, in fact, have been paying at a much lower rate than 30 per cent, taking into account marriage and child allowances. He agreed with Mr James Comyn, QC, for the defence of the companies, that a more realistic figure of tax losses would be £856,000. That was based on a calculation that the average building worker would pay 17½ per cent of his earnings in tax.

The "lump" is labour-only sub-contracting. Tax exemption certificates exempt bona fide sub-contractors from having tax deducted at source by contractors.

The prosecution had said that Murphy employees had "dressed up" as sub-contractors in a plot to avoid payment of income tax.

The fraud was carried out from April, 1972, until June, 1974, with members of the joint labour force of the two firms being paid wholly or in part without tax deductions. To give the matter a cloak of legality, payment was made through a number of limited companies.

Mr Leonard said the plot began the day before an Act of Parliament came into force preventing tax abuse by use of the "lump" system in the building industry.

A statement from J. Murphy and Sons said an appeal was being considered against the conviction of the company and certain of its employees.

It added: "The company has a healthy order book and, due to its financial stability, and the strength and depth of its management, the board is confident that the company's future trading position is assured."

It said the fine imposed on the company was payable in three equal annual instalments, starting on October 1 next.

Takeover in 1972: John Murphy and Sons Ltd specialized in pipe-laying and gas mains work in London before being taken over by the London and Northern Group in March, 1972. London and Northern shares slipped 3½p to 36p yesterday after the sentences.

The Murphy firm was built up by Mr John Murphy, who is now an executive director on the main board of London and Northern, which has a stock market value of about £20m. It has wide interests in the building and construction field.

Murphy is owned 75 per cent by London and Northern, which bought an initial £6,700,000 stake in 1972.

Peter Hill, Industrial Correspondent, writes: In his Budget speech last year the Chancellor introduced tougher measures to curb "the lump", or labour-only sub-contracting. Maximum penalties were increased from £500 to £5,000 on summary conviction for those making false statements or furnishing false documents to obtain tax exemption certificates.

It was reckoned that the lump system had cost the Inland Revenue about £10m a year in tax evasion. The new controls made it impossible for "lump" labour to avoid the legislative provisions by setting up one-man companies. It was estimated by Whitehall that about 30,000 such companies had been established over the years to circumvent the law.

Ministers' silence on pay beds attacked

By Our Medical Reporter

The Campaign for Independ-
ence in Medicine, launched to
ght the Government's plans on
y beds and separation of
rivate practice from the
ational Health Service, today
ccuses the Government of
ever having answered the case
ainst its proposals.

Presumably the facts might
onflict with political theory, a
mphlet to be sent to Cabinet
nisters, MPs, peers and
ctors says.

The pamphlet, which argues that the Government's plans will destroy a system under which some private practice within the NHS has worked well for patients, the NHS and the profession since 1948, is part of an attempt to enlist public support. Within the next few days 3,500,000 leaflets bearing the message "patients before politics", and one million lapel badges will be distributed.

The campaign concludes that the Government's proposals to abolish pay beds and set up a licensing system for private health facilities implies a casual abandonment of some of the most fundamental liberties of British citizens in a way that could be considered only as hasty, ill-considered and ominous.

The campaign is supported by the British Medical Association, the Hospital Consultants' and Specialists' Association and the Independent Hospital Group, largely representing private health insurance organizations.

Barbara Hepworth Museum: The Government will not contribute anything towards the running costs of the Barbara Hepworth Museum (above) which occupies the sculptress's old studio in St Ives, Cornwall, and opens to the public on April 12 (our Arts Reporter writes). Dame Barbara died in a fire at the studio last May. The museum will go ahead as a privately financed venture, however, and a fund, the Barbara Hepworth Museum Fund, has been established. Dame Barbara's executors, who include Sir Norman Reid, director of the Tate Gallery, have issued a statement regretting the refusal of Mr Hugh Jenkins, Under-Secretary in the Department of Education and Science with responsibility for the arts, to refuse funds for the museum. They hope to raise the matter with the Government again in about a year. The upstairs room of the museum contains a representative group of 15 sculptures, mainly carvings, from all periods of Dame Barbara's career. In the garden are 15 more, mainly in bronze.

Judge awards £100 to brave estate agent

Mr James Pearcey, aged 58, of Walthamstow, east London, an estate agent who twice tackled an armed robber in a jewellers' shop, was described by Judge Neil McKinnon, QC, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday as the "bravest man in Britain on the day". He awarded him £100 from public funds.

He said: "The courage he displayed has rarely been seen in peacetime and is usually reserved for battle zones in war."

Mr Alan Green, for the prosecution, said Mr Pearcey tackled Eric Stephens, aged 30, of Lampard Grove, Stoke Newington, during a raid in Walthamstow. Mr Stephens's pistol went off and the bullet hit the floor.

He then struck Mr Pearcey on the head with the pistol. Mr Pearcey went into the office to raise the alarm and the gunman aimed at him and shouted. Mr Pearcey picked up a chair and the gunman ran

Mr Stephens, who admitted six armed robberies, was jailed for 15 years.

Two of the three other members of the gang were also jailed for 15 years. A fourth man was jailed for 12 years.

More effort urged to save threatened marriages

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Married couples may get caught up in the legal machinery for divorce when they really want to be reconciled, the National Association of Probation Officers says in a memorandum to the Home Office working party on marriage guidance.

"We believe solicitors or court clerks ought to investigate more thoroughly the possibility of referral to a counselling agency at the initial interview with the client", it says.

That ought to be more than the present mere formality. There should be an obligation to certify not merely whether the possibility of reconciliation had been discussed but that it had been discussed and declined, or attempted and failed.

Less and less matrimonial reconciliation work is coming to probation officers, particularly in city areas. Referrals used to come by way of the magistrates' matrimonial courts, or solicitors or directly. The association suggests that more legal aid and easier divorce have been responsible for the decrease in referrals.

"An important factor has been the persistence in the magistrates' courts of the old concept of the matrimonial offence, as opposed to the new divorce court principle of 'irrevocable breakdown', which has discouraged many people from going to the domestic court as a first step when their marriage has seemed to be breaking down."

In fairness to solicitors and court staff, the association says, there has been little reaction by probation officers to the falling off in referrals.

"We do not believe that absence of referrals means that people no longer have the problems they used to have but rather that these tend to be sealed off from the probation service."

There should be more use of marital counselling, the association adds. Probation officers had been involved in marital work since the beginning of the century, and such casework was an inescapable part of all probation practice. The association calls for better training in marital work for probation officers.

Teachers 'should not be asked about politics'

By Our Education Correspondent

Teachers should not be asked about their politics or marriage plans when they appear before interviewing committees for posts, the National Union of Teachers said today in a working party report.

Nor should they be asked about their religious beliefs except in the case of appointments to church schools. The guidelines, the first on the appointment and promotion of teachers presented by the union, would also ban questions on whether a teacher would be prepared to live near a school.

The report says teachers should not be asked which union they belong to or whether they would be prepared to take part in extracurricular activities after school hours.

The report will be submitted to the union's annual conference in Scarborough next month. It is likely to be approved overwhelmingly. The union will probably also accept a recommendation that confidential reports on the work and professional standing of a teacher undertaken without the teacher's knowledge should be banned.

Olympics in Glasgow would cost £450m

From A Staff Reporter
Glasgow

Glasgow's hope, nurtured for the past three years, that it could stage the Olympic Games in 1984 or 1988 took a sharp blow yesterday. A feasibility study reported that the cost would be up to £450m and leave Glasgow with a deficit of up to £200m.

The study, headed by Professor Ronald Nicoll, of Strathclyde University, was carried out for five Scottish local authorities in the area: "We have gone out of our way to ensure no extravagance", Professor Nicoll said. "There are no funny roofs, for example, as were planned for Munich. The scheme is modestly designed."

To stage the Olympics, Glasgow would have to build a stadium costing £38m in a disused dockside area, with an Olympic village next to it containing permanent housing for 5,000, which would accommodate the 10,500 athletes, officials and trainers. An £11m swimming pool would have to be built in the Gorbals and a press centre would be needed as well as upgrading of other buildings. The total cost of buildings for the games would be up to £300m.

It would cost £150m more to organize the games. About £220m would come back in revenue from gate charges, a lottery, and coin and stamp sales. Taking into account an estimate of £30m for facilities likely to be built anyway, that would leave a deficit of up to £200m

That latest testament to the extraordinary costs of mounting the Olympic Games comes at an unfortunate time for Glasgow. In a climate of public expenditure cuts, the chances of government approval for such a major programme of public spending must be virtually nil.

Council leader faces trial

Edward Newby, aged 64, leader of West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council, was committed for trial on corruption charges by Bradford magistrates yesterday. Reporting restrictions were lifted at the request of a solicitor for one of two other defendants.

Mr Newby, of Leeds Road, Bradford, was charged with William Clifford Brown, aged 66, former Bradford city architect, of Tranmere Park, Guiseley, near Leeds, and Mary Elizabeth Fenelon, aged 60, of Mount Road, Manningham, Bradford.

HOME NEWS

The hidden influence of alcohol on crime

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Four times as many crimes ere committed under the influence of alcohol as is apparent from the usual official statistics, according to a survey published today by the Christian Economic and Social Research Foundation.

Thet figure was arrived at through the mooitoring of 1,220 cases in the courts at Luton and Duostable last year. Nearly half the men charged with theft offences had taken some alcohol before the alleged offences. More than half the defendaots had done so in cases of dangerous or offensive behaviour.

Those associated with the survey say that a full statistical survey would be worth while. They want to influence the drafting of future legislation and decisions of the courts, and to persuade the Government of the need for a revised penal policy.

The survey was initiated by the Chief Constable of Bedfordshire, Mr Anthony Armstrong, in cooperation with the foundation and the division of social responsibility of the Methodist Church.

Four exam subjects at 16 enough, head says

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

The number of subjects for examination taught in schools to children under 16 should be reduced to four, Mr Patrick Martin, president of the Headmasters' Association, said last night in a speech calling for sweeping changes in secondary education.

He told the association's annual conference when it opened in Cambridge thet the subjects should be English, mathematics, a modern foreign language and a modern science. That core of subjects should be taught to all, and pupils should be examined at the age of 16 by a common system of examinations.

Mr Martin, who is headmester of Warwick School, the independent school at which Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, wes educated, said thet secondary school education had swung too far towards netional examinations. "It has become mo much concerned with earning a living and takes too little notice of the quality of living".

"Moreover, because in some primary and secondary schools the three Rs have been neglected or devalued, and because our society is in trouble in spite of 25 years of pouring rates and taxes into education, there is every sign that either education is to be devalued or teachers are to be brought to heel and told to account to society for the results of their work or both."

Half the school's working week should be given to the four core subjects. The rest would be given to the other subjects, which would not then be cramped by grades, orders of merit and rote learning. Schools had been bedevilled in the past 50 years by the needs of society.

Their products had heen "labelled, docketed and pigeonholed." Teechers had not been free to educate. A child's career could be blighted by a trivial difference of percentage marks in examinatione or by whether he or she was selected for CSE or O level.

Geography lessons should show the physical beauty of the world and give attention to conservation. History should be taught to show what was trivial and what important in human life. Religious education should develop the capacity to wonder and to worship. Physical education should include more health education. Music, art and craft should all strengthen their place in the curriculum.

Lessons on "learning to live" should be part of every curriculum and should teach pupils how to deal with bank managers, tax collectors, social workers, magistrates and politicians so that the difficulties of society should not dominate their adult life.

Mysticism and a sense of mystery were essential to a healthy human life. Too much modern teaching for the 11 to 16 group over-emphasized the rational and over-developed the critical faculty.

The training of reason was too often applied to remembered facts. "I have no brief for a mind stuffed full of information; it has no room for wonder, love, a sense of beauty."

Health education was too often neglected. "Many boys can and do take more care of the engine and body of their motor cycles or motor cars than they do of the engines and bodies which support them throughout life. Schools and society struggle with the problems of early smoking, a considerable increase in drinking by schoolchildren and a drug scene."

A Martian visitor would deduce from today's papers, periodicals and films that the only beauty that interested us was female and topless. Children were philistines, slow to recognize beauty of word in poetry or verse, mathematics, painting and the environment.

"Secondary schools need more time for work and discussion which helps to develop a recognition of beauty and an urge to create it in home and environment."

The chief justification for schools was teaching children how to get on with their neighbours. All schools should accept that as the first standard of measurement.

"Schools must lead the way back, help us to put the quality of living first and standard of living second, and draw in parents, politicians and the media to support the change of direction."

MPs clash on succession to farm tenancies

Tory MPs protested in a Commons committee yesterday at a government concession widening the scope of eligibility of near relatives to succeed to a ferm tenancy oo the death of a tenant farmer.

Mr Gavin Strang, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, had just announced during the committee stage of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill thet he was prepared to eccept an amendment from Mr Ceerwyn Roderick, Labour MP for Brecon and Radnor. It related to the length of time a neer relative must have derived his principel source of livelihood from work on the farm to be eligible to apply to the Agricultural Land Tribunal for the right to succeed.

The Bill set out that he must have derived his principal livelihood from the farm for five out of the seven years before the death of the tenant farmer, but allowed three of those years to have heen spent attending a full-time further education course in agriculture.

Conservatives forced a division but were defeated by eight votes to seven, e government majority of one.

Confession of robbery was untrue

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

John Joseph Boyle, aged 21, of the Scots Guards, who was freed by the Court of Criminal Appeal in Edinburgh yesterday after a nine-year sentence for armed bank robbery was quashed, was immediately re-arrested aod charged at Edinburgh Sheriff Court with perverting the course of justice.

The Court of Criminal Appeal was unanimous in quashing the conviction. Lord Cameron said there hed been a miscarriage of justice, for which in large measure the "reckless end deliberate actioo of Boyle himself was responsible".

When Mr Boyle appeared et the Court of Appeal earlier this month it was stated thet he was an IRA sympethizer and hed been persueded to hold up the bank to get mooey for the IRA.

The court was told yesterdey that Mr Boyle hed been absent without leave from his regiment since September lest end was detained by civil police in Glasgow at the request of the Army. He had pleaded guilty to the bank robbery because he preferred to serve a sentence in a civil prison rather than a military one.

He was under the "staggering misapprehension" that he could get a senteoce not much above whet he would have received for being absent without leave. He claimed to have got his information on the bank robbery from a newspaper.

GLC Tories to allow council house sales

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Conservetives on the Greater London Council gave a pledge yesterday that when they returoed to office every teoant would have the right to buy his own home.

Mr Horece Cutler, who hopes to lead his party back to power in next year's elections, was commeoting on the renewed argument for transferring council housing to teoants, contained in a pamphlet written by Mr Frank Field, director of the Child Poverty Action Group.

It was shameful, Mr Cutler said, thet the GLC Lebour party had denied the right of every council tenant to buy his own home. "They mutter ebout capitalism and the property-owning commuoity as though to own your own roof is a crime, while they could with one sweep of the pen carry out a vast redistribution of wealth by selling council houses to every tenant and release them from what Frank Field calls serfdom."

Mr Cutler said ther when the Cooservatives were in power on the GLC from 1967 to 1973 they had sold 16,000 council houses to teoaots, but the Lebour Party had stopped thet policy when it took over in 1973.

The Labour and Conservative parties at County Hall are not quite as far apart as Mr Cutler woold suggest. Mr Richard Balfe, chairman of the housing development committee, yesterday welcomed the new discussion, but favoured a universal equity-sharing scheme rather than a straightforward disposal of the stock.

Mr Cutler acknowledged there would always be a need for some rented properties and those tenants would have their rights protected.

"But what we must realize", he said, "is that the country can no longer afford to build, rehabilitate and modernize all the housing that is needed from public funds. The sale of council houses to tenants will therefore help finance other housing.

"Selling a council house to e tenant does not mean you are losing the property and having to replace it with a more expensive one, because the property was not available in the first plece as it was tenanted and the tenents were not going to move out."

Costly repairs: Millions of pounds were being spent by local authorities on repairing badly built council houses, a survey by the magazine *Building Design* said yesterday. It said that many councils were fecing huge bills which could heve been avoided.

The most common faults were leaks, demp, falling masonry and corrosion, the magazine said.

Mr Peter Murray, the magazine's editor, said yesterdey thet the main pressures which resulted in substandard buildings were the need to get homes built quickly.

Volunteers 'threat to liberties'

By Our Parliamentary Staff

If civil violence increased in Britain civil liberties could be placed at risk more by the activities of volunteer vigilantes than from the activities of the police, Mr Eldon Griffiths, Conservative MP for Bury St Edmunds and an adviser to the Police Federation, told the Police Bill committee yesterday.

He believed that euch an increase was more than likely and it would be necessary to supplement the regular police force with more special constables, and possibly civil defence, territorial and other personnel.

"If we go down the road to a more violent society in this country it will be necessary to call from time to time for more voluntary support for the civil police. I think we are taking a very big step if we say now that specials, when their duties may be required, shall not be subject to the same sort of complaints procedure as the regular police, in whom we have confidence", he said.

Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann, Labour MP for Merton, Mitcham and Morden, said some people might become specials because they would get satisfaction from beating up football supporters or using violence within the fremework of the law.

Dr Summerskill, Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, said the main provisions in the Bill were concerned with formal disciplinary proceedings and special constables were not to be brought into the Bill's provisions.

Warning of ambulance chaos

The National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) said yesterday that London's ambulance service will be plunged into chaos unless a solution is found to a dispute involving 270 officers over pay grading.

Nalgo and the National Union of Public Employees decided to extend the officers' overtime ban and work to rule by instructing them to "adhere firmly" to standing orders and to refuse routine calls. Emergency calls will not be affected.

Fares protest by commuters

A group of rail commuters yesterday haoded in a petition signed by 3,200 people to British Rail protesting at fare increases, then went on to lobby MPs at the House of Commons.

Mr Micheel Land aod Mr John Oliver, who organized the petition on the London-Brighton line, said that any further increases would provoke a stronger reection. "We can expect some form of sanction if fares carry on increasing", Mr Oliver said.

Prisoners to be allowed to type

By Oor Political Staff

More discretion is being giveo to prison governors to allow prisoners the use of typewriters, after representatinne by the House of Commoos Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman).

First Report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration Session 1974-75: Observations by the Government, (Cmnd 6442, Stationery Office, 12p).

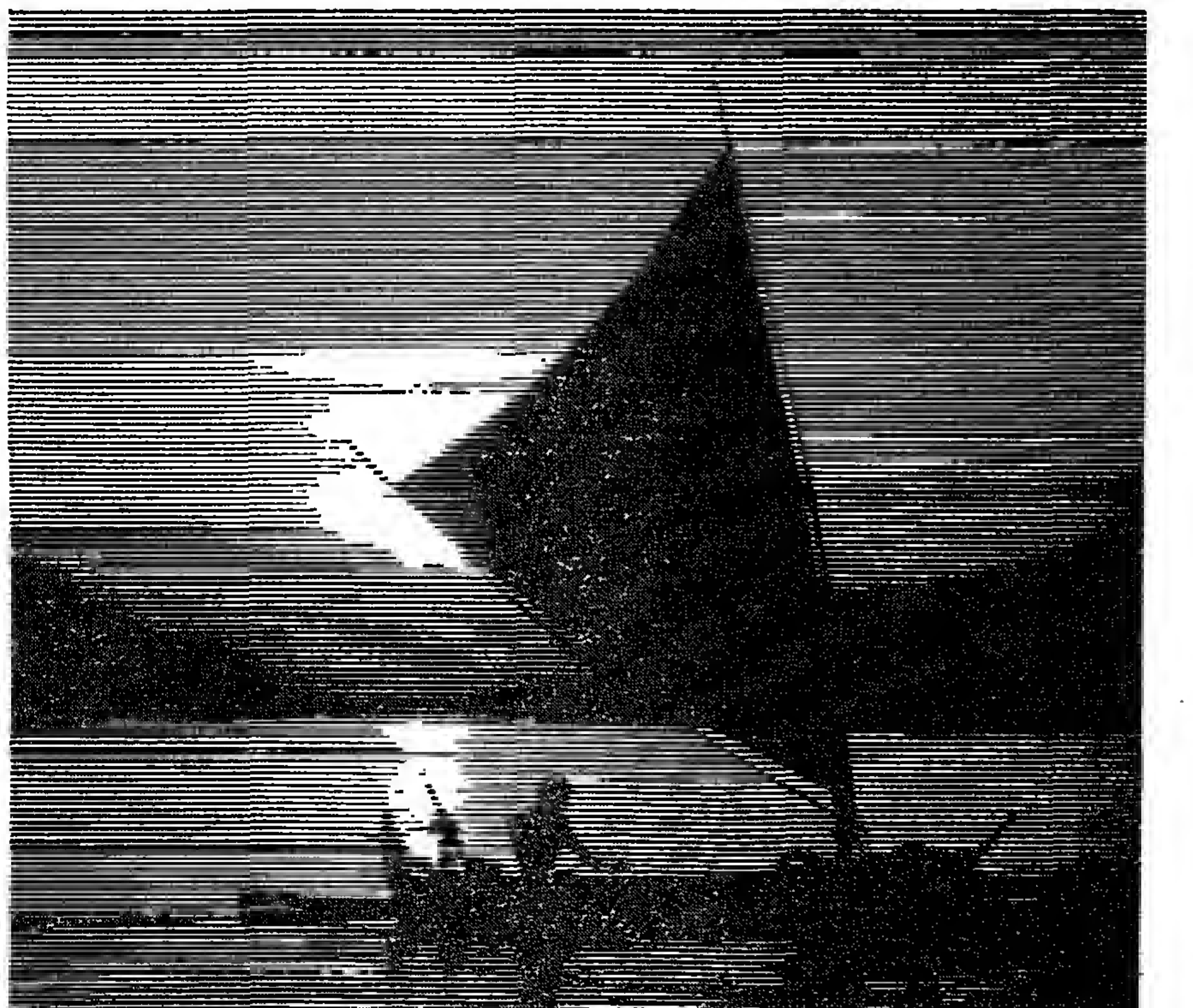
Land Bill defeat for Government

The Government was defeated in a Commoos standing committee yesterday over a Conservative amendment to the Development Land Tax Bill.

The amendment, carried by seven votes to six, allows expenses to be taken into account by en owner who develops his land.

Mathematics

An article by Professor Hermann Bondi on the teaching of mathematics is published today in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. There are also articles on Warwick University, the film *Jaws*, academic freedom, and George Eliot.



Law Report March 25 1976 — Queen's Bench Division

Rent tribunals have jurisdiction over rooms in hostels

Regina v South Middlesex Rent Tribunal, Ex parte Beswick

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Kenneth Jooes

[Judgment delivered March 24]

A rent tribunal has jurisdiction under the Rent Act, 1968, to hear the application of a persoo who has entered into a contract to occupy as a dwelling a single room in a hostel, even though that hostel does not have a resident landlord.

The Divisional Court so held in allowing an application for an order of mandamus directed to the rent tribunal for South Middlesex requiring it to hear and determine the application of Diana Elizabeth Beswick to fix the rent payeble for premises in North Common Road, London, and to defer the operation of a notice to quit.

Section 7d of the Reot Act, 1968, provides: "(1) . . . this Part [VI] of this Act applies to a contract . . . whereby one person grants to another person, in consideration of a rent which includes payment for the use of furniture or for services, the right to occupy as a residence of dwelling . . . (2) . . . a contract falling within subsection (1) above and relating to a dwelling which consists of only part of a house is a contract to which this Part of this Act applies whether or not the lessee is entitled, in addition to exclusive occupation of that part, to the use in common with any other person of other rooms or accommodation in the house."

Mr Andrew Arden for the applicant.

MR JUSTICE THOMPSON said that the applicant lived in a YWCA hostel and since June 10, 1974, had occupied a single room. That room was her sole home. She was not a temporary resident. In common with other residents, she had the use of a kitchen, dining room, living room, laundry room, bathroom and toilet. On October 27, 1975, she was given notice to quit because it was said that her behaviour had become unacceptable.

On November 5 she applied to the rent tribunal, and on November 27 the members of the tribunal visited the premises. At the hearing that afternoon the tribunal said that it had no jurisdiction to hear the application because although a warden lived on the hostel premises, she was an employee of the YWCA and could not qualify as a resident landlord. It gave its reasoos in the standard form, and dismissed the case on the ground that there was no resident landlord.

The conteotion, supported by the YWCA solicitors, was that the tribunal confused matters and failed to appreciate that it was not a tenancy but a licence, and that being so, the provisions in the Rent Act, 1974, which deprived the tribunal of jurisdictioo were irrelevant. Under the provisions of the 1968 Act, the applicaot was a person to whom it could be said that Part VI applied because it was a contract eotered into by which the YWCA granted to the applicant for consideration of a rent which included paymeot for the use of furniture and services, the right to occupy the dwelling as a residence.

The order for mandamus should go and the tribunal should hear the application.

The Lord Chief Justice and Mr Justice Kenneth Jones egreed.

Solicitors: James Saonders.

Credit for surety's attempt to withdraw

Regina v Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Pearson

Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Thompson and Mr Justice Kenneth Jones

[Judgment delivered March 24]

A woman who was ordered by a magistrate to forfeit £2,000 recognizance after her brother had oot appeared in court had the order quashed because the magistrate did not give her credit for a serions although unsuccessful attempt to withdraw as surety.

The Divisional Court graoted an application by Mrs Liane June Rita Pearson, of Nottingham, for an order of certiorari to quash an order of the Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr R. J. A. Romaio) at Horseferry Road, London, whereby she was ordered to pay £2,000 within 21 days as forfeiture of a recognizance which she had entered into oo October 31, 1975, to ensure the ettendance of her brother, Barry Mason, at the Horseferry Road conrt on November 14.

Mr P. J. Sutton for the epplicant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that, somehow, the applicaot had got wiod oo November 12 that her hrother might not appear as required. She went to the police station in Nottingham where she had entered into the recognizance and sought in writing to "withdraw as surety". She sought to be released from her obligation. In due coorse she told the magistrate that her brother lived in Wales; her purpose wae to show the difficulty she had in controlling or observing his movements.

The magistrate, in an affidavit, said that he explained to her that, if she had wanted to withdraw from her obligation as surety, she should have gone to the police station with her brother and handed him over to custody. The magistrate considered that she had not carried out her duties as surety and had the means to pay £2,000.

The application for certiorari was unlikely to have seen the light of day hut for *R v Southampton Justices, Ex parte Green* ([1976] QB 11). Mr Sutton submitted that the magistrate had exceeded his jurisdiction by failing to take into account the important factors of means and culpability.

The magistrate could not be criticized for not having pursued any question about means.

Before forfeiting a recognizance the magistrate had to consider, inter alia, the surety's conduct and see whether or not it was open to criticism. The problem was to be approached on the footing that the surety was seriously entering a serious obligation and ought to pay the amount promised unless there were circumstances either of means or of culpability which made it fair or just to make the surety pay a smaller sum. Looked at in that way the *Southampton* case was helpful.

At common law the applicant's obligation was to take her brother physically to the police and hand him over—an operation which might not have been altogether easy. The common law had been supplemented by section 23 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, whereby police assistance could be invoked by a surety who wanted to deliver e person to custody.

Looking at the applicant's cese fairly one ought at least to consider the suggestion that some part of the £2,000 might be restored to her, or left in her hands, because she had made a serious effort to discharge her obligation lawfully although she failed to do it properly.

The magistrate had giveo no credit for that; he ought to have considered it and reeched a cooclusion on it. On thet ground certiorari should go.

Mr Jusdce Thompsoo and Mr Justice Kenneth Jones agreed.

Solicitors: Montague, Gardner & Co.

Court of Appeal

Fine and prison for young offenders

Regina v Genese

Before Lord Justice James, Mr Justice Michael Davies and Mr Justice Jupp

Wheo sentencing ao offender uoder 21 a judge must consider every way of dealing with him before imposing a sentence of imprisonment. But if all other methods were excluded, a judge might send an offender to prison and also impose a fine. There was nothing in section 19(2) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973, to prevent a judge imposing a fine as well as imprisonment where appropriate, and the decisioo in *R v Ankers* ((1975) 61 Cr App R 170; [1975] Crim LR 402) was not authority for saying that a fioe in addition to a sentence of imprisonment was necessarily wrong.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an application by Paul Genese, aged 20, for leave to appeal against a sentence of four mooths' imprisooment, suspended for two years, and a fine of £150 imposed last December by Judge Mynett at Oxford Crown Court for affray.

Section 19(2) provides: "No court shall impose imprisonment oo a person under 21 years of age unless the court is of the opinion that no other method of dealing with him is appropriate. . . ."

Mr Alexander Dawson for the applicaot.

LORD JUSTICE JAMES said that since last December the applicaot had heen convicted of other offences for which he was sentenced to a period of borstal training. The effect of that was to render the suspended sentence a nullity: section 22(5) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973. The fine, however, was not affected.

In his original grounds of appeal counsel for the applicant submitted that the judge hed failed to take account of section 19(2) and that he should not have sentenced him to imprisonment since there was another way of dealing with him, namely by a fioe. In his amended grounds, following the disappearance of the suspended sentence on the borstal order, counsel submitted that if the judge had cooclnded that there was no appropriate method of dealing with the applicant other than by imprisonment, he should not have imposed a fine.

His argument was based on section 19 and *R v Ankers*. In that case Mr Justice Park, in the Court of Appeal, said that the trial judge in *Ankers*, having decided to deal with the appellant by fining him, was wrong in imposing in addition sentences of imprisonment, as it could not be said that no other method of dealing with him was appropriate.

A commentary on the report in the *Criminal Law Review*, when referriog to the general principles governing suspended sentences, stated that to impose a fine in combination with a suspended sentence was inappropriate and tended to reinforce the impression that a suspended sentence was a "let off" and might result in punishing the offender twice if the suspended sentence was brought into action. That did not reflect the true sentencing policy of the courts. That report led to a belief that it was wrong to impose a fine on a persnn being sentenced to a suspended sentence.

That belief was reflected in *An Index of Common Penalties and Formalities*, by Peter Morrish and Ian McLean, where it was said that it was wrong to impose a suspended sentence with a fine.

The court disagreed. There was no statutory provision which forbade a fine in addition to a sentence of imprisonment. The decision in *R v King* ((1970) 54 Cr App R 362) was cited in *Archbold* (38 ed, 1973, p 454) as authority for stating that there was nothing wrong in principle, when passing a suspended sentence, in also imposing a fine on the same count. Section 3d of the 1973 Act imposed a general power to fine an offender.

R v Ankers was referred to in *R v Foster* (unreported, February 1d, 1976), where Lord Justice Shaw said that the court would demur at the suggestion in *Ankers* that if a fine was imposed the judge must be regarded as having come to the conclusion that imprisonment could not be an eppropriate penalty. But the Lord Justice had misunderstood what had occurred in *Ankers* where the recorder, having agreed with counsel that a fine was the appropriate penalty, sentenced the defendant to e suspended sentence, in additioo to fining him. The recorder had clearly misdirected himself since he had decided that a fine was the eppropriate penalty. That was not authority for saying that it was wrong to impose a fine as well as a sentence of imprisonment.

A judge, when sentencing en offender under 21, must consider every way of dealing with him before imposing a sentence of imprisonment. Once he had decided that imprisonment was the only appropriate penalty, he could consider whether to suspend the sentence or add e fioe as an additional penalty. Toere was no substance in the epplication, which would be refused.

Solicitors: Registrar of Criminal Appeals.

Motion day applications

The need for applications for interlocutory relief heard on motion days in the Chancery Division to be short was stressed in an announcement made in their courts by Mr Justice Templeman and Mr Justice Fox, who are in charge of motions this term. The announcement stated the principles that they will apply to unlisted motions for the remainder of this term. It said:

The procedure whereby unlisted motions are heard in open court every motion day (Tuesday and Friday) enables a large number of applicants to obtain interlocutory relief at very short notice.

The procedura only works well and fairly if each contested application does not take more than two hours at the most. A long application prevents other applications heing heard. The proper procedure for a long applicatioo is for the parties, after mentioning the matter to the judge, to apply to the clerk of the Chancery lists for a day to be fixed for the hearing of the motion. If necessary the motion judge can be asked to grant interim relief.

In future, if counsel appearing on motioo day for an applicant cannot establish within a short time a reasonable case for the grant of interlocutory relief he may find his motioo stood over for a day to be fixed. A short time will rarely exceed an hour, and, in most cases, will expire in less than an hour.

Similarly, if counsel appearing oo motion day for a respondent cannot within a short time displace the view that a reasooable case for the grant of some relief has been established he mey fiod that the motion is stood over for a day to be fixed and that appropriate relief is granted in the meantime.

These limitatioos end possible courses of actioo are ooly explained for the guidance of counsel and litigants aod are oot inflexible rules. In e particular case the interests of justice may require, even on motion day, a hearing which is not short. No hard and fast rules can be evolved in advance which will apply to every applicetioo. But in the ioterests of all litigaots every effort requires to be made to shorten an application for interlocutory relief.

Church news

Diocese of Bath and Wells

The Rev C. J. B. Marshall, Vicar of London Sutton and Long Load, to be Vicar of Wiveliscombe.

Canon A. E. N. Molesworth, Rector of Huish Episcopi and Pitney, to be also curate-in-charge of High and Low Ham.

The Rev P. C. Robson, chaplain of Brasenose College, Oxford, diocese of Oxford, to be Rector of Timsbury.

The Rev H. Rodgers, Vicar of Leigh Woods, diocese of Bristol, to be Vicar of Wellow with Foxcote and Shoscombe.

The Rev S. G. Wells, Rector of Seaborough, also to be curate-in-charge of Corston with Newton St Loe.

Diocese of Ely

The Rev S. A. Griffiths, Vicar of St Neots, to be honorary canon of Ely Cathedral.

The Rev M. Makower, senior tutor of Ridley Hall, Cambridge, to be priest-in-charge of Lode with Longmeadow, and director of training of auxiliary pastoral ministry.

Diocese of London

The Rev R. F. Atkins, Vicar of Wolverley, diocese of Worcester, to be Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, South Hackney.

The Rev C. C. Taylor, Vicar of St John the Baptist's, Great Cambridge Road, Tottenham, to be Vicar of St Barnabas's, Temple Fortune.

Diocese of Norwich

The Rev E. A. Cunnington, priest-in-charge of St David's, West Holloway, diocese of London, to be vicar of Martham with West Somerton.

The Rev K. H. F. Kinns, Vicar of St Peter's, Abbeydale, diocese of Sheffield, to be priest-in-charge of Rockland All Saints and St Peter, and of Shropham with Larling with Snetterton.

The Rev A. H. R. Thomas, curate of Cromer, and Bishop of Norwich's chaplain to holidaymakers, to be Rector of Grimston with Congham and Roydon.

The Rev N. E. Mitchell, assistant director of social services for London Borough of Bexley, to be Rector of Neatishead with Irstead and priest-in-charge of Barton Turf, and diocesan director for social work.

Retirements:

The Rev A. C. Granger, Rector of Holy Trinity, Jersey, diocese of Winchester, on April 30.

The Rev A. P. Mole, Rector of Old Alresford and priest-in-charge of Brown with Chilton Candover and Swarraton with Northington, and chaplain of Old Alresford Place, diocese of Winchester, on April 30.

Canon J. Morton, Rector and Rural Dean of Rothbury, diocese of Newcastle, on June 1 and to be Master of St Mary Magdalene and Holy Jesus Hospital, Newcastle.

Latest wills

Miss Olive Katherine Lloyd-Baker, of Hardwicke, Gloucestershire, landowner, left £990,176 net.

Other estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):

Boord, Sir Richard, of Richmond £110,552

Clayton, Mr Colin, of The Temple, London, a Master of the Supreme Court, Queen's Bench Division, from 1951 until his retirement in 1967 .. .. £31,339

Robinski, Mr Adam Jan, of Ealing, London £299,523

Gray, Sir James, of Cambridge, former professor of Zoology, Cambridge University .. £43,128

Usher, Mr Leonard James, of Bocking, Essex £315,282

Marsham-Townshend, Mr John, of Chislehurst, Kent .. £326,507

Luxton, Mr Frank Ernest, of Ottery St Mary, Devon £120,474

Wilson, Miss May, of Oakham, Leicestershire £121,331

University news

New Vice-Chancellor for London

Dr Frank Hartley, BSc, PhD (Lond), dean of the school of pharmacy, has beeo elected Vice-Chancellor of London University for the remainder of this session and for the session 1976-77. Professor N. F. Morris, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, has been appointed deputy vice-chancellor for the sessions 1976-77 and 1977-78 and acting deputy vice-chancellor for the rest of this session.

Cambridge
Elections

CHURCHILL COLLEGE: A. B. Daniel, headmaster, Gowerton School, Gowerton, Swansea, schoolmaster fellow commonership for the Easter term.

KING'S COLLEGE: Junior unofficial fellowship (internal), J. P. Forrester, MA, research student of the college; official fellowship from April 1, on his appointment as college assistant lecturer in classics, J. G. W. Henderson, MA (Oxon): junior unofficial fellowship (external) in ancient history from October 1, W. M. Jongman, Leiden University.

TRINITY HALL: D. N. C. [illegible] (Magill), of Gonville and Caius College, research fellowship in astrophysics from October 1

Sussex

Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following at the summer graduation on July 13:

LLD: Mr Stanley Deason, member of university council from 1961 to 1975.

DLitt: Professor Asa Briggs, vice-chancellor of the university until the end of this academic year.

DSc: Professor Ya B. Zeldovich, professor of physics, Space Research Institute, Moscow, and Academician, Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

;ritain wins general upport of EEC n floor price for oil

›m Michael Hornsby
ssels, March 25

, plea by Britain for agree-
nt on adoption by the EEC
a minimum import price for
won general support from
nmunity energy ministers
e today, but ran into stiff
osition from the French
the Italians. Britain
; a floor price as an im-
tant guarantee of its huge
estment in North Sea oil.
rench opposition also pre-
ted the ministers from
ching agreement on a
eme for the emergency
ring of Community energy
urces in the event of a
is of supply such as occurred
1973 after the Yom Kippur
. This is to be reexamined
officials, and the ministers
take a fresh look at the
r price proposal at their
t meeting in June.

hese conflicts of view came
ing discussions by energy
isters of a European Com-
sion proposal, based on
delines laid down at the
C summit in Rome last
ember, for a minimum im-
t price of $7 (£3.60) a bar-
for crude oil and its heavy
medium derivatives. This
pares with a current price
about $12 a barrel.

greement on the principle
a floor price was generally
lerstood to have been
ched at the Rome summit.
s was subsequently pre-
ted by Mr Wilson and Mr
laghan, the Foreign Secre-
y, as the main justification
abandoning their demand
a separate British seat at
international consumer-
ducer conference in Paris.
Ir Wedgwood Benn, the Sec-
ry of State for Energy, who
the meeting early to be in London for the announcement of results in the Labour leadership race, told his colleagues that he was looking for a decision on an oil price today.

Strong support for Mr Benn came from Mr Peter Barry of Ireland, but the Italian minister felt that geo-thermal, hydroelectric and nuclear energy had been neglected.

No clear explanation for French objections emerged from the discussions. While accepting the need to guarantee investment in energy resources, M d'Ornano, the French minister, appeared to feel that a minimum price should be only one element in a larger package of measures.

The French are known to be worried about the danger of creating a sense of confrontation with the Arab oil producers. This is one of the reasons why, alone among the Nine, France has stayed aloof from the American-sponsored international energy agency, which has already endorsed a $7 floor price.

The rationale behind the Commission's proposal is that a severe drop in oil prices could not only render uneconomic the EEC's existing oil, gas and coal resources but also diminish the incentive to invest in the development of alternative energy supplies. This in turn would jeopardize the EEC's efforts to reduce its reliance on imported energy.

As a result of their disagreement over an oil floor price, the ministers also postponed a decision on associated Commission proposals for the maintenance of current levels of coal production.

Increase in British contribution ruled out

From David Cross
Brussels, March 25

A West German and Dutch offensive to reduce their national contributions to next year's EEC budget at the expense of the British and Italians received a sharp setback in Brussels today.

Changes being sought by Bonn and The Hague in the way in which national payments to and from the budget are calculated, would probably cost the British Exchequer an extra £150m next year. By contrast, the West Germans would save more than £100m.

The West German and Dutch case is based on the unfairness of the present system of financing. Under long-standing arrangements, national contributions to the Community's budget are calculated on 1971 exchange rates. The net result now is that countries like West Germany and the Netherlands, whose currencies have appreciated since 1971, are not benefiting from the increased value of their marks or florins.

Conversely, states like Britain and Italy, whose currencies have floated downwards, are still paying in undervalued pounds and lire. In Britain's case, for example, the Unit of Account used for calculating payments to and from the budget, is worth $2.40 compared with its real market value of $1.92 or so.

On this basis, the European Commission in Brussels was asked by EEC finance ministers to look into the question of when and how the system could be modified to spread the burden more equitably.

In its initial findings published in Brussels today, the Commission concedes that the present system is now unrealistic. But, for a number of reasons, it argues that a change next year would be premature. It suggests instead that a new system be introduced in 1978 when present anomalies will, in any case, have largely disappeared.

The Commission points out that if a modified calculating system were introduced next year simply by recalculating contributions in line with the standing of national currencies, the impact would be "extremely brutal" on countries like Britain and Italy. The only fair solution would be to recalculate total contributions but this would be legally and technically impossible in the time available.

Moreover after 1978, the Commission points out, an entirely new and fairer system of financing the budget is due. At that stage, it will make little difference how the Unit of Account is calculated because national contributions will be paid into the budget automatically out of customs duties, agricultural levies and a small proportion of revenue from VAT.

The findings are likely to be welcomed by Whitehall, which has been strenuously opposing any immediate changes.

M Claude Cheysson, EEC Commissioner responsible for overseas development, was in London yesterday for talks with Mr Reg Prentice, Minister of Overseas Development.

Lords committee favours Brussels as site for European Parliament

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Strong arguments for siting the European Parliament in Brussels instead of continuing the present system of commuting between Brussels, where ministerial and committee meetings are held, and the debating chambers in Strasbourg and Luxembourg, were advanced yesterday by the House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities.

In a report timed to help peers in their debate on direct elections to the European Parliament, to be held on Monday, the select committee says that there should be a permanent meeting place for the Parliament "because its present peripatetic course wastes manpower and money".

The EEC has to reckon now with providing facilities for a Parliament consisting of 355 members, compared with the present 198.

"The availability of an assembly hall big enough to house the enlarged directly-elected Parliament (and also for any future increase due to the accession of new members) is one of the factors which may have some bearing on the number of members and the proposed choice of a site", the committee states.

"The present assembly building at Luxembourg holds 200 members, the new building at Strasbourg (which is to be rented from the Council of Europe for Parliament meetings) will hold 400 members, while the largest available hall in Brussels (Palais de Congrés) would hold up to 600 or more."

The committee adduces strong arguments for siting the European Parliament together with the EEC Commission and the Council of Ministers in the same place. "If the European Parliament met at Brussels it would provide opportunities for closer contacts between the Parliament, the Council and Commission."

In Britain, various proposals have been made to preserve the dual mandate, which allows MPs to stand for both Westminster and the European Parliaments. The Lords committee recognizes the heavy load which would be imposed on people who had this dual responsibility, "which would be liable to increase if the European Parliament were to develop new competences".

"Further, the effects on the national Parliament would be more marked as a result of the proposed increased size of the national representation at the European Parliament", the committee points out.

After reviewing four different proposals for maintaining a link between the European MPs and the national parliaments, the select committee states: "The optional dual mandate preferred by the British Government might mean that there would be a few members of the European Parliament who would also be members of the House of Commons; some who might be members of the House of Lords; and others, probably the majority, who would be members of neither.

"It would follow that contact between Westminster and the European Parliament would be difficult to maintain. It would also mean that a member of the European Parliament who was not a member of the House of Lords would have to undertake the full burden of concurrent membership of the Commons and the European Parliament, or have no connexion with the United Kingdom Parliament."

The Lords select committee, whose chairman is Lady Tweedsmuir, cannot suggest a complete answer to these problems. But it suggests that there should be EEC scrutiny committees at Westminster in which British members of the European Parliament would have the right to speak and to hear evidence, but not to vote. This, says the committee, would allow a Government minister to be heard in evidence.

"On the other hand, it must be recognized that if the European Parliament were to have longer and more frequent meetings, it would be difficult for members of the European Parliament to attend at Westminster", the report states.

Because of the complications, the committee recommends that "the whole issue of providing for a modified form of dual mandate" should be remitted to the select committee which is to be appointed to consider modifications to the practice and procedure of Parliament, with a request to report by the autumn.

On a subject which is of vital importance to the Liberal Party, the select committee notes that other members of the EEC have voting systems which are more proportional in their character than the United Kingdom's. "The existing British system used in a mere 67 constituencies might produce results more obviously unproportional than in 635 constituencies", the report states.

"The adoption of the single proportional vote system for the Northern Ireland Assembly is a precedent for adopting a special system in special circumstances. Direct elections to the European Parliament offer an opportunity to choose from the start the most appropriate system for what is, in any event, a unique Parliament."

President's own party upset by Chirac role

From Richard Wigg
Paris, March 25

The Gaullists were today visibly content with the decision, announced by President Giscard d'Estaing in his television address last night, to make M Chirac, the Prime Minister, the "coordinator" of all three parties in the Government.

The President reaffirmed his intention to continue his programme of reforms, but he has given the Gaullist M Chirac overriding responsibility for combating the Opposition in the two years before the next general election. He will devise the overall alternative to the "choice of society" proposed by the Socialists and their Communist allies.

All this is harsh on the Independent Republicans, M Giscard d'Estaing's own party. When he came to office in 1974 they spoke boldly of "Giscardizing the majority", or more modestly, of restoring a balance in the coalition, by strengthening the Independent Republican and Centrist elements thanks to the influence of "their man" in the Elysée Palace.

The Independent Republicans, the second strongest party in the coalition, today bravely put the best face on things, M Michel Poniatowski, the Minister of the Interior and their leader, went on the radio to deny vigorously that M Chirac had become some kind of French vice-president overnight. M Roger Chinaud, their parliamentary leader, immediately invited the Prime Minister to "inaugurate" his new functions on Saturday by addressing the Independent Republican parliamentary group, now huddled in conclave in Nice.

This Riviera meeting behind closed doors was originally intended to work out the party's own response to the cantonal electoral setback. Only yesterday, an article by M Chinaud appeared in *Le Figaro*, which set out the Independent Republicans' scheme for a triumvirate drawn from the three coalition parties. This would jointly devise tactics against the Left's electoral advance.

The struggle against the Left should provide cement for the three partners. But M Jean Lecanuet, the Centrists' leader and Minister of Justice, who has wanted a more energetic pace of reforms, stayed silent today. M Poniatowski and the Independent Republicans' secretary general strove to insist that their party's "personality" would be preserved.

This political shift has caught most attention, with government supporters seeing a change in M Giscard's style and in the absence of anything innovatory in the address about economic and social problems.

But while the "Patronat", the principal employers' federation, today welcomed the assurances that priority would be given to the economy, with no new tax burdens, other supporters of the President either expressed flat disapproval or indicated that the 20-minute address had not been sufficient to dispel their worries.

Several usually pro-Government papers declined to be won over by one broadcast, evidently preferring to judge the Government's future acts.

Elsewhere, the President's emphasis on greater security against crime and social disorders, such as among the wine-growers of the Midi, was highlighted by the press. But this also came in for strong opposition criticism and was taken as proof that "Giscardian liberalism" is now virtually finished.

Police search Madrid for sister of rival prince

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, March 25

The political police were searching Madrid today for Princess Maria Teresa Bourbon-Parma, one of the King's relatives, to hand her an expulsion order. King Juan Carlos's Government apparently considers the princess, sister to the Spanish monarch's Carlist rival, Prince Carlos Hugo, a threat to national security.

General Franco expelled Prince Carlos Hugo and the rest of his family, except for his Dutch wife Princess Irene, in December, 1968, seven months before he named the then Prince Juan Carlos as his eventual successor and political heir.

A week ago the Carlist prince arrived in Madrid by air from Paris. The police at the airport put him back on the same aircraft refusing him entry.

The Carlists had high hopes that their man would mount the throne one day, as their volunteer troops supported General Franco wholeheartedly in the uprising against the Spanish Republic which brought him to power. The dictator later turned his back on the Carlists, however, to pick Prince Juan Carlos, the son of the Isabelina claimant and grandson of Spain's last king, Alfonso XIII.

The Carlists did not give up, even after Prince Juan Carlos assumed the Crown. Princess Maria Teresa, who had entered Spain secretly a number of times over the past few years, arrived here without fanfare and apparently with government consent about a month ago. An article by her on Carlism was published in *The Times* on Wednesday last week.

The political police summoned Señor José Maria Zabala, secretary-general of the outlawed Carlist Party, to a police station last night. They are said to have asked him to bring them the princess's passport so that they could put a stamp in it which would end her visa within 24 hours.

›. Danish view of what he other eight lack

Roger Berthoud
enmark would like its EEC
ners to devote more energy
he central problems of Com-
nity cooperation, and less to
ncy" changes in decision-
cing procedures.

his is the main message of
article in the Danish Foreign
nistry's monthly magazine
itled "Are we good Euro-
ns?" by Mr Jens Christen-
, State Secretary for Foreign
nomic Affairs, a principal
nitect of Denmark's EEC
cy.

key fields where there are
ous advantages in increased
eration, none of the mem-
states of the Nine seem
ared to go as far as Den-
, he says.

or example, Denmark is
dy straight away to begin to
ablish fixed currency rates
the Community, to use a
mon unit of account in all
s of cooperation, and to
ate a gradual pooling of the
ign exchange reserves of
ber states.

It is ready to accept a substantial enlargement of the Social Fund, and to implement any common measure conducive to increasing employment.

In a thinly veiled attack on the larger EEC countries, Mr Christensen said that the origin of certain European ideas is to be sought in subconscious aspirations of rising to "great power" status in a European shape. But the goal should surely be to turn Europe not into a military great power, but into a centre of scientific, technological and cultural power.

As for the idea that the way to re-establish the capacity for political action within the EEC's institutions lay through direct elections to the European Parliament, Mr Christensen said the Danes failed to see why they should be introduced right now, after the matter had been in abeyance for 17 years. But not wishing to be obstructive, they had agreed to direct elections, with minor reservations.

No hijack' offer Moluccans ›posed in court

Hague, March 25

he Amsterdam public prose-
r has demanded seven and
alf year jail sentences for
seven accused in the case of
ng South Moluccans who
upied the Indonesian Con-
te in Amsterdam in Decem-
and held 43 people hostage.
e suggested that should the
ch authorities and the
lers of the 33,000-strong com-
nity of Moluccan exiles in
Netherlands be able to
ch an agreement guarantee-
that there would be no
re hijackings or taking of
tages, then the seven might
regarded as "prisoners of
: who had been convicted,
l whose pardon would auto-
tically be considered

Unemployment figures are likely to fall

From David Cross
Brussels, March 25

After reaching a peak of nearly 5,700,000 in January, unemployment in the European Community is likely to decline steadily over the coming months.

This was the cheering message from the European Commission in Brussels today when it published new figures showing a sharp fall in the number of jobless last month to a total of about 5,570,000. A Commission spokesman said that for the first time since the middle of 1974 unemployment was now falling in most EEC member states.

The latest unadjusted figures for wholly unemployed show falls in Britain, Belgium, Denmark, West Germany, The Netherlands and Luxembourg during the past couple of months or so. The totals have risen very slightly in Italy, Ireland and France.

At the same time seasonally adjusted figures reveal a fall or levelling off of unemployment in all member states except Britain. In West Germany, France and Holland the downward trend began as long ago as last autumn. The number of people on short time has also fallen considerably in all member states where recent statistics are available.

West Germany has now overtaken Britain at the top of the unemployment league with a total of 1,346,723 in February. Britain had 1,253,427, closely followed by Italy with 1,164,300 (December figure) and France 1,017,357 (January).

Notwithstanding today's brighter news on the employment front, EEC member governments, particularly the British and the French, are known to feel that more must be done by the Community to reduce unemployment even further.

This is likely to be one of the main themes of discussion among heads of government of the Nine when they meet in Luxembourg next Thursday and Friday to review the Community's economic situation. President Giscard d'Estaing of France, for example, has already given notice that he would like the summit to concentrate on the key area of the Community's economic and monetary problems.

French rail strike grows worse

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 25.

In spite of an agreement signed last night by the French state railways with five unions the strike worsened today throughout much of the country. The Communist and Socialist Unions, who organize about three quarters of all railway staff, have called a national strike

Train services in the Paris suburbs continued to be the worst hit by a stoppage which started six days ago. On the main lines traffic was reported improving in northern and Eastern France. But even in these regions no more than half the normal services were assured.

Left wins springboard for Rome victory

From Peter Nichols
Rome, March 25

Lazio, the region which has Rome as its capital, last night became the sixth of Italy's 20 regions to be administered by a Communist-led coalition. The news of the Lazio election success for the left came on the eve of today's general strike involving about 15 million workers. They are protesting against government austerity measures.

The head of the Lazio's new administration is Signor Maurizio Ferrara, a Rome Communist with a solid bourgeois background who is widely respected for his literary as well as his political prowess.

He was elected by 32 votes to 23 and his supporters include not only Communists and Socialists but also Social Democrats.

This is the first time since the regions were established in 1970 that the Lazio has passed out of Christian Democratic hands.

Rome itself has been under Christian Democratic rule for three decades and municipal elections are due in the city in June. The regional elections last summer showed that the Communists were the largest single party in the city.

There are widespread fears among the Christian Democrats, and there is much anxiety at the Vatican, that June elections will result in the election, for the first time, of a Communist mayor in the Italian capital.

The Communists are believed to be planning a formidable campaign with a leading figure in the party as their candidate for mayor.

Today's general strike was organized by all three leading trade union federations. Its effects varied according to the sector concerned.

Rome, March 25.—Signor Luciano Lama, leader of the Communist-dominated CGIL confederation, told a strikers' rally in Genoa today: "The workers know that a policy of austerity is necessary to fight inflation and the recession, and they do not refuse the sacrifices

"But they want to know, and justly, what good these sacrifices are going to do and whether other social groups, with higher incomes, are also being asked for an adequate contribution, as has not happened in the past and is not happening today."—Reuter.

Mayor of Hebron accuses Israeli troops of beating Arab who died after West Bank riots

From Eric Marsden
Hebron, March 25

An Arab, aged 34, died yesterday at Hadassah hospital, Jerusalem, from injuries received after disturbances in Hebron. Earlier Shaikh Muhammad Ali Jaabari, the mayor of Hebron, alleged that the man had heen beaten by Israeli troops in an army vehicle and on the street.

The mayor gave me the news of the death of Mr Khimdan Assad Abu Ramila during an interview for which he interrupted a meeting with his councillors and others. He claimed that Mr Abu Ramila had been seized by troops while on his way to the Mosque of Abraham and that, as a result of beatings, he suffered broken bones and internal injuries.

He was given a blood transfusion in a Hebron hospital, then taken to Beit Jalla hospital, near Bethlehem, where doctors considered his condition hopeless. He was moved to Hadassah hospital and died.

Sources in Jerusalem denied the mayor's version that the man had been seized while going to the mosque. They claimed that the incident occurred after a riot by about 100 youths in which roads were blocked, tyres burnt and army and civilian cars bearing Israeli number plates attacked. After an army car had its windscreen shattered, troops were called in tn disperse the rioters.

The sources admitted that Mr Abu Ramila was "probably heaten" in the clashes that followed. They said he was treated hy an army doctor at the military government headquarters and that an Arah doctor was advised to take him to Hadassah hut instead he was admitted to the Hebron hospital. His condition worsened during the afternoon. A post-mnrtem examinatinn has heen ordered and the funeral delayed. Doctors attending the meeting in the mayor's office confirmed that Mr Ahu Ramila had been treated at the Amira Alia hospital in Hehron and said that he had broken bones, internal hleeding and suspected brain haemorrhage.

This is the third death during the present West Bank trouhles. The first victim was an 11-year-old boy shot near Bethany a week ago and the second a man, aged 45, who died during a demonstration at Salfit, near Nahlus. Arahs have alleged that he died as a result of a beating hut he was officially stated to have had a heart attack.

Shaikh Jaabari also added his weight to allegations published in Israel newspapers that Jewish religious settlers from the estate of Kiryat Arba near by had set dogs on Arabs during last week's conflict in Hehron. He said the incident occurred while three Arabs were heing held at Kiryat Arba by the settlers. As a result of the attack, two Arabs were in hospital.

The mayor referred me to the doctors present, one of whom confirmed that he had treated a number of Arabs for dog bites, stitching their wounds and giving injections against rabies. It is understood that police are investigating the allegations against the settlers. The doctors claimed that 10 people had been attacked by the dogs, three within Kiryat Arba and the others in the streets of Hehron.

The settlers of Kiryat Arba had failed to prove that they cnuld live peacefully alongside Arabs, Shaikh Jaabari claimed. "Anybody who thinks such settlements could be the basis for peaceful coexistence is mistaken." The Jewish settlers were continuing to disturb Mnslim prayers at tha Mosque of Ahraham, he added.

Asked to comment nn reports that the settlers had been provided with ammunition by Israeli troops, he said this was true. Weapons had also been given to Jewish schoolchildren at Kiryat Arba. There was no reason for it. "Nothing has happened in Hehron to justify the Army seeking help from the settlers."

Soviet hint of accord in southern Africa

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Both Britain and the Soviet Union appear to be satisfied that relations are on a sensible and constructive course. The official statement issued after the visit of Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, ended yesterday, had little substance to it, but Mr Wilson told the House of Commons that Mr Gromyko had given a "firm and unequivocal assurance" that the whole of the £950m credit already provided for will be taken up in the near future. This is an issne close to the Prime Minister's heart, as he negotiated the original deal and only £25m, has heen used so far.

The main interest in tha talks was southern Africa, on which the two countries agreed to disagree. The statement contains one sentence on the subject: "There was an exchange of views on the situation in southern Africa, in the course of which tha two sides set out their respective positions."

There is some satisfaction in London, however, that Mr Callaghan's point, that détente, like peace, was indivisihle, was well noted by Mr Gromyko. The Soviet Union is concerned at the evident disappointmant in the West with the results of détente.

Mr Gromyko was pressed about Soviet intervention in southern Africa at his press conference before leaving for Moscow. He gave little away. His discussions with Mr Wilson and Mr Callaghan, tha Foreign Secretary, had been "very specific and concrete".

"We expressed our understanding that the question of Angola, and the countriea around Angola, could he resolved constructively, given certain conditions, and in fact something of the kind... [here he interrupted the interpreter] which does not mean I am talking about preconditions.... Let me say here something of that sort is in the making, and allow me not to go deeper into that."

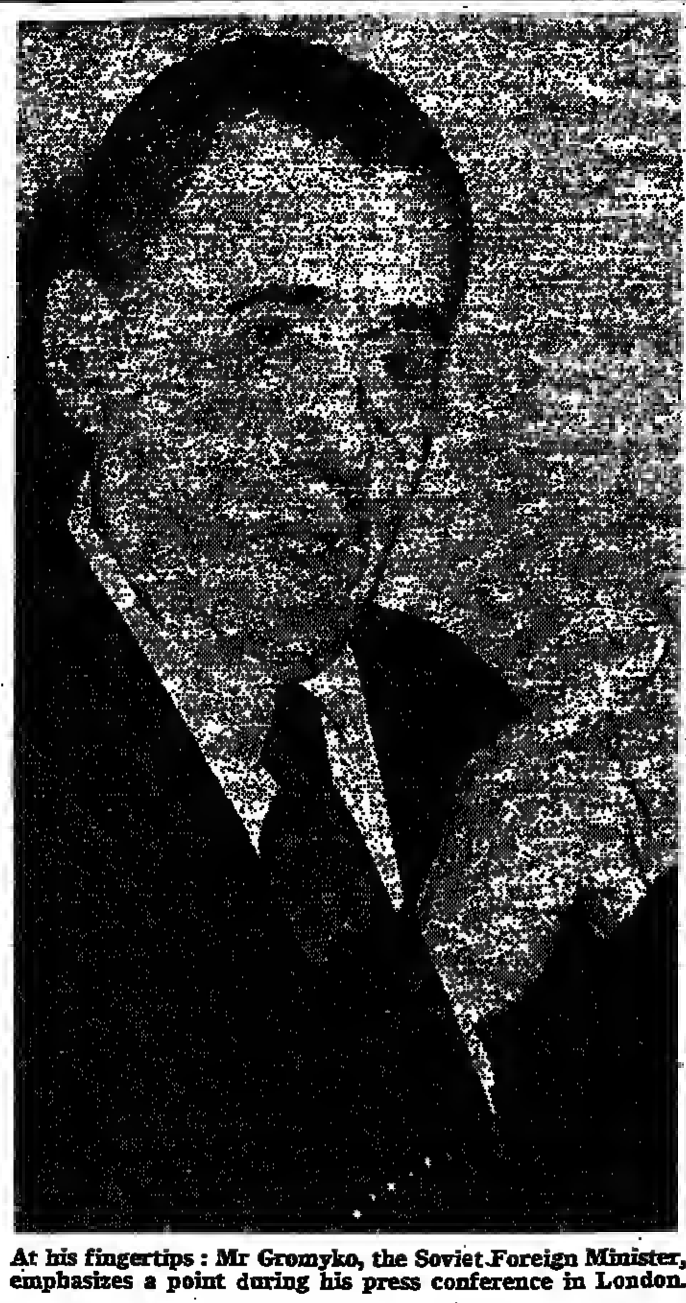
All this was presumahly a reference to the negotiations, now over, in which South Africa has heen seeking from Angola, through Britain, assurances about the safety of the Calueque dam.

Pressed about Soviet intentions in the rest of southern Africa, Mr Gromyko gave a somewhat enigmatic answer, "Frequently the Soviet Union is referred to when the subject of Rhodesia or Namibia comes up", Mr Gromyko said, "hut the Soviet Union has nothing whatever to do with either of those areas. When we read the map we read the names as well as any other country. But we hava nothing whatever to do with them."

On the American warning to Cuha, however, Mr Gromyko allowed a note of asperity to creep in to his answer. "I should not like to discuss here any questions relating to Cuba", he said.

"The Cuban leadership did not ask any of us to discuss here any questions relating to Cuba.

"The Cuban leadership itself has made its own statements concerning its position. As for all these warnings and statements, I can only say the less there are such warnings and statements, the better it would be."



At his fingertips: Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, emphasizes a point during his press conference in London.

Argentina all quiet as junta tightens grip

From Our Special Correspondent
Buenos Aires, March 25

Argentina returned to calm today as the military junta which overthrew President Maria Estela Perón tightened its grip on the country and carried out a "cleaning up" operation chiefly aimed at left-wingers and Perónist labour leaders and politicians.

Ports and airports reopened, theatres and cinemas were back in business, all public administration offices reopened and some radio stations were permitted to resume normal programmes, indicating that the three-man junta already feels it is in charge of the country. Diplomatic recognition has already been mada by several countries.

For the second successive day there was no sign of resistance to the coup d'état which ended nearly three years of Perónist rule.

Throughout the country the hand-over from civilian to military authorities has been smoothly completed. In Buenos Aires nfficers took power in an eight-man national caretaker Cabinet; and in the 24 provinces the governors and other elected authorities were replaced by the military. Armoured vehicles have withdrawn from the centre of the capital and only an occasional soldier in battledress can be seen guarding public buildings.

But schools and universities remained closed by military order. Banks were also shut and accounts frozen as the military inspected them for evidence of "disorder and corruption" under the Perónist regime. This accusation had been levelled at the former Government from all sides during its closing months in office.

For most Argentines the chief impact of the coup today was the sudden muffling of the press, despite the outspoken chorus of criticism which it had raised against the outgoing Perónists. Editors have been ordered to hand in galley proofs to the military censors before publication, and the result today was that the newspapers carried the texts of yesterday's 34 military communiqués in place of news reports on the coup. The junta has said this will be only a temporary measure.

Several newspapers printed editorials commenting on the inevitability of the military take-over and cautiously welcoming it. "A new stage is opening with reborn hopes", declared the mass circulation independent *Clarín*.

Perhaps the most astute comment, however, came from the English-language *Buenos Aires Herald*, which noted that the junta were carrying out "tough measures couched in moderate language".

Arrests throughout the country, which began as the tanks rolled into Buenos Aires on Wednesday morning, were reliably reported to be continuing on a large scale. In the industrial city of Córdoba it was reported that hundreds were arrested last night. Córdoba is the centre of Argentina's motor industry and renowned as the country's most volatile and left-oriented city.

People throughout the country have been officially advised to keep off the streets at night as troops carry out arrests during the hours of darkness. Tha military continued to refuse all comment on the arrests, and estimates so far range from 500 to 2,000, many of them prominent figures under the deposed regime.

Meanwhile, the junta formed by the Army commander, General Jorge Rafael Videla, the Navy commander, Admiral Emilio Massera, and the Air Force commander, Brigadier Orlando Agosti, began issuing a stream of decrees writing yesterday's military communiqués into law.

One decree ordered civilians to hand over all arms and explosives within 48 hours or face 10 years imprisonment. Another introduced the death penalty or indefinite imprisonment for sabotage, arson and bomb attacks and authorized security forces to shoot saboteurs on sight. The penalties apply to offenders aged over 16 years.

Other decrees suspended political and trades union activities, even ordering the emblems of political parties to be removed from their headquarters and branch offices. "The activity of political parties must be suspended whila the process of recovery of the state at all levels and in all functions is carried out," one decree stated.

China sends Egypt free spare parts for MiGs

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, March 25

China has provided Egypt with engines and large quantities of spare parts and other technical equipment for its air force, the Middle East Naws Agency reported tonight.

The Soviet Union equipped Egypt with MiG fighters; China used MiGs supplied by the Soviet Union hefore relations deteriorated as prototypes for its own aircraft industry so that it has stores of matching parts.

The report follows another hitter attack by President Sadat on the Soviet Union yesterday for refusing to supply Egypt with its military needs and to reschedule debts.

Earlier this month, announcing the decision to terminate the 1971 treaty of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union, he said the Russians had even refused to overhaul the MiGs or to allow India to do so. China attacked the Soviet attitude to Egypt and praised Egypt for having the courage to end the treaty.

The news agency said China had sopplied the equipment free of charge. When Egypt offered to pay, the Chinese Government refused saying: "We are not weapon traders."

Critics of Israel hope to win West over

From Peter Strafford,
New York, March 25

New proposals were put hefore memhers of tha United Nations Security Council today for a resolution that would he critical of Israeli hehaviour in Jerusalem and the West Bank. They were suggested by a group of non-Arah countries, whosa hope was that the Americans would not veto them.

Bnt the Israelis mounted a counter-attack by making a well-publicized protest to the Americans about the speech on Tuesday night by Mr William Scranmn, the new representative, who was sharply critical of certain Israeli policies.

The council debate, called by Libya and Pakistan on hehalf of the Islamic gronp, has been discussing Israeli policies in tha occupied territories, including Jerusalem. But it was transformed from a routine exchange of charges between Israel and the Arahs by Mr Scranton's speech.

Mr Scranton emphasized that he was only following previous American attitudes towards Israel in these areas. The sharpness of his tone, however, when he descrihed Israeli settlements as illegal, appeared to introduce a new element.

Mr Simcha Dinitz, the Israeli Amhassador in Washiogton, protested in telephone calls to Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, and Mr Joseph Sisco, the Under-Secretary. They reflected Israeli dismay over the new turn of events, and the vigorous reaction in Israel itself.

The objection was to the tone and the substance of several of Mr Scranton's remarks, and also to the fact that the speech was made at a meeting at which the Palestine Liberation Organization was present.

On the Arah side, there was quiet satisfaction about Mr Scranton's speech, which was in marked contrast with those of Mr Daniel Moynihan, his predecessor. The hope today was that it would lead the Americans at least to abstain in a vote on the resolution being proposed.

The wording was toned down in order to make it less offensive to the Americans, as well as to other Western countries. Instead of "condemning" Israeli actions, for instance, it proposed "deploriog" them; it took out the word "repressive" in referring to Israeli activities.

One of the principal points in the proposed resolution was criticism of Israeli efforts to change the status of Jerusalem. Another called on Israel to refrain from measures against the Arah inhahitants and a third urged Israel to desist from expropriation of Arab property and the creation of settlements.

Three killed in Namibia border clash

Pretoria, March 25.—A South African soldier and two hlack guerrillas were killed in a clash last night in the border area between Sonth-West Africa (Namihia) and Angola, the Defenca Ministry said here today.

The statement did not identify the guerrillas, hut informed sources said they were believed to be members of the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo). As usual, the statement did not pinpoint the exact location.—Reuter.

African presidents fail to end ANC rift

From Our Correspondent
Lusaka, March 25

The four-nation African summit on Rhodesia ended today with no apparent success in nniting the nationalist factions in preparation for what most observers here regard as an inevitable civil war in the rebel British colony.

No statements at all were forthcoming from the Zambian Government, and President Machel of Mozambique and President Sir Seretse Khama of Botswana flew off without making any comment. All that President Nyerere of Tanzania, who chaired the meeting, would say at the airport was that he had "nothing, nothing, absolutely nothing" to say, adding "but we had a very good meeting".

However, sources close to the Zamhian Government indicated that, with the door to a peaceful constitutional settlement apparently closed by Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, the main topic was how a guerrilla war should he launched and not whether it should be war or peace.

In consequence, the four presidents were also trying to bring together Mr Joshua Nkomo and Bishop Ahel Muzorewa, the two leaders of the opposing factions of the African National Council.

That the summit failed in this respect hecame evident from comments afterwards. Bishop Muzorewa said: "We have united in purpose and that is to fight our enemy as a united front." But he made it clear that this was only an agreement of intention and that no progress had been made in attempts to unite the two factions.

Mr Nkomo, whose months of talks with Mr Smith on the constitutional issue finally broke down last week, was also adamant that there had been no agreement on uniting the two ANC factions.

But it was also evident that Mr Nkomo has not hecome "irrelevant", as it had been suggested he would become if his negotiations with Mr Smith broke down.

Concorde ban rejected in Senate

Washington, March 25.—The American Senate today rejected a proposal to ban the *Anglo-French* Concorde *supersonic* airliner from landing at United States airports.

By 50 votes to 31, it threw out an amendment proposing the ban by Senator Lowell Weicker (Repuhlican, Connecticut).

Two other anti-Concorde amendments to the same Bill, a routine piece of legislation on airport development, were due to be voted on later. But the strength of the opposition to Senator Weicker's amendment made it likely they, too, would he rejected.

Senator Weicker's amendment would have banned the Concorde from landing at United States airports, except in an emergency. An amendment to a similar Bill, already approved by the House of Representatives, would ban Concorde flights to all American airports except Dulles airport, near Washington.

The vote on Senator Weicker's amendment indicated apparent support for the action of Mr William Coleman, Secretary for Transportation, allowing the airliner to land at New York and Washington for a 16-month trial period, and a weakening of the anti-Concorde forces. Last July, the Senate defeated a Concorde ban by a mnch narrower margin of 46 to 44.

US protest to Russia over bomb threat to embassy

From Edmund Stevens
Moscow, March 25

Mr Walter Stoessel, the United States Amhassador in Moscow, today sent a written protest to the Soviet Foreign Ministry over a bomh threat to the embassy. It was the second protest Note in two days.

Today's incident hegan at lunchtime when a telephone caller, speaking in English, said a 2lb bomh had been placed on the embassy ground floor. Staff evacuated the ground floor, but no bomb was found

The previous Note was prompted by a spate of telephone calls to embassy staff threatening retaliation for the harassment of Soviet mission members in New York by Jewish activists, and for the bomhing of the New York Offices of Aeroflot.

Soviet sources also contend that the recent car accident in which Mr Jacoh Malik the Soviet representative at the United Nations, and his wife were injured, was deliberately contrived.

Both embassy Notes said the New York authorities were doing all possihle to prevent further hostile acts against Soviet persons and property, and that snch inspired retaliation served no useful purpose hut only aggravated matters.

Yesterday's Note asserted that in the view of the emhassy, the harassing telephone calls, received by some 50 staff members from people identifying themselves as "a naighbour" or "a worker", were not spontaneous.

These latest acts of harassment ara an ominous reminder of events in the winter of 1970-1971, when outrages perpetrated by the so-called Jewish Defence League resulted in Soviet retaliation

Compromise on world chess

Belgrade, March 25.—Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion, has accepted a compromise formula to defend his title in 1978.

Dr Max Euwe, Dutch President of the World Chess Federation, has proposed the title should go to the first person to win six victories in the title match. The reigning champion would retain his title in case of a 5—5 tie, but would commit himself to a return match with the challenger.

Hongkong Governor cancels London visit

Hongkong, March 25.—Sir Murray MacLehose, the Governor of Hongkong, today cancelled his forthcoming visit to London, presumably because of the resignation of Mr Wilson. He was dne to meet Mr J. Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, who is to visit Hongkong and China in May.—AP.

Mr Carter under fire from Democratic rivals as Wisconsin campaign begins

From Fred Emery
Washington, March 25

The primary election campaigns have now switched to Wisconsin and New York, where the vote is being held on April 6. Mr Jimmy Carter, the Democratic front runner, who is being increasingly regarded by his rivals as the man to beat, picked up hia first endorsement from a senator.

As a Washington outsider, Mr Carter has deliberately kept his distance, but now he is trying to impress his credentials oo the party's liberal establishment.

Senator Joseph Biden, one of its recent young recruits, today declared: "Jimmy Carter is a winner and I'd like to help him get to the White House." He added that Mr Carter sensed the need to deal with existing problems in "ways which appear to be unorthodox to many traditional politicians but which are welcomed by a public looking for a new leadership".

In contrast, Representative Morris Udall, the lone credible "progressive" on the Democratic left, is pouring scorn on Mr Carter in his Wisconsin appearances. Mr Udall has to win in Wisconsin to remain credible, and he sees Mr Carter as his biggest threat.

Last night, Mr Udall was delighting his partisan audiences with jokes about Mr Carter being on all sides of political issues. He took abortion as an example of what would happen if Mr Carter and President Ford ended up as the candidates. Mr Ford, he said, would he somewhere in the middle, with Mr Carter on either side of him.

Only one candidate—and a scarcely considered one—has taken up the issue of Dr Kissinger's warnings to Cuba. Accusing the Ford Administration with "planning an act of war", Mr Fred Harris has written to the Senate foreign relations committee demanding that it should hold hearings on the plans, he said, he had heard from "trusted sources".

In recent days the Secretary of State has not disavowed newspaper speculation that the United States might attempt a blockade of Cuba if Cuban troops were unleashed against Rhodesia or Namibia.

Mr Harris said his sources had confirmed the reports. It is known that several senators attended a secret briefing given by Dr Kissinger last week.

"American security is not threatened by Cuba, however reprehensible Cuba's involvement in Africa is", Mr Harris asserted. He suggested that the Government should not again get involved in a war without the full knowledge and consent of Congress.

Tha point of Dr Kissinger's warning was to make eure that the Soviet Union prevents Cuba from taking such action in southern Africa. His difficulty, with a recalcitrant Congress, was to convince everyone it was not an empty bluff.

The White House and Pentagon spokesman later confirmed that contingency plans for military action against Cuba were being reviewed. "A number of things are under study", Mr Ron Nessen said at the White House.

The Pentagon spokesman said: "The joint chiefs of staff are participating in a National Security Council review of possible actions which might be taken with regard to Cuba."

US Elections 1976

London England

OVERSEAS

All Americans urged to get 'swine flu' vaccination by autumn

rom Fred Emery
/ashington, March 25

President Ford has startled mericans by urging all 215 iillion of them to get vacciated by next autumn against »-called "swine flu". The iccine is to he manufactured nder a crash programme with 135m of government funds.

The President said he was king emergency action to foreall what eminent scientists id persuaded him was the real possibility" of an epiemic next autumn. An outeak of the "swine flu" strain -or something suspected to be ose to it—for the first time nce the deadly epidemic of 918-19, was recorded last onth among Army recruits at ort Dix, New Jersey. As many 500 men were reported affecd and one man died. However, ie White House said there ere only 12 confirmed cases at ort Dix. In 1919 some 20 milon died of "swine flu".

The President was advised, nong others, by Dr Jonas Salk id Dr Albert Sabin, who both ke *credit* for the anti-polio iccine. They made a rare joint ppearance yesterday with the resident when Mr Ford announced be would ask Congress appropriate $135m to cover ie cost of the vaccine.

"No one knows exactly bow rious this threat can be", Mr ord said, evidently anticipating ie sceptics who point to the re-election spectacle of everyne getting their "Ford flu" ijections. But he went on: Nevertheless we cannot afford take a chance with the health f our nation."

The injections will not be ree as has been widely preumed. After all, Mr Ford, a bampion of free enterprise, nd already under attack as eing part of the Washington stablishment, could bardly fford to appear to be providing form of socialized medicine, towever preventive.

The problem will be to mobiize the manufacturers and the ocal hospitals and doctors. Nothing on even balf this scale has been attempted before. Manufacturers, of course, said they could do it—provided the Government supplied the money.

At the moment only small batches of the new vaccine have been produced, and none is expected to be available until late summer, before which time large-scale tests will need to be conducted for its safety.

The only comparable mass inoculation was undertaken with anti-polio vaccine in the early 1960s. More than 100 million persons bere were treated, but it took over one and a half years.

Geneva, March 25.—Officials at World Health Organization (WHO) beadquarters, which said a month ago there was no evidence of a spread of the "swine flu" virus, reacted with surprise to President Ford's plan to vaccinate every American.

A spokesman empbasized that so far there has been no appearance of the virus outside the Fc Dix camp.

Since the isolation of the virus at Fort Dix, WHO centres in Atlanta, Georgia, and in London have started work on preparing a vaccine.—AP.

Our Medical Correspondent writes: The minor outbreak of swine influenza at Fort Dix is the only report so far of buman infection with this variant of the influenza virus. The anxiety among health officials hera and in America is due to the close resemblance of the virus to that responsible for the worldwide epidemic of Spanish influenza in 1918-19 which killed millions of healthy young adults.

Since the 1920s the only reports of that virus causing outbreaks of influenza have been among pigs and the recent American outbreak is the first reliable report of its responsibility for the spread of human infection.

Most influenza viruses are very similar in their chemical and physical make-up so that an illness due to one gives some immunity against the others. However, the swine influenza virus is substantially different from those responsible for *recent* outbreaks in Britain so that the only people who might be expected to be immune are tbose who survived infection in 1918-20.

At present it is impossible to say how serious any new outbreak of swine influenza might be. Tbough the chances of tbe virus causing a major epidemic may seem small, bealth authorities throughout the world are cooperating in precautions. Manufacture of a vaccioe is straightforward but since the virus is unusual pilot tests will be needed to establish the number and size of the doses

Chief Minister to resign in Malaysian state

Kuala Lumpur, March 25.—Tbe Selangor State Assembly today passed a vote of no confidence in Datuk Harun Idris, the Chief Minister.

The vote followed Datuk Harun's expulsion from the ruliog United Malays National Organization (UMNO) last Thursday by the party's supreme couocil, wbich accused bim of creating disunity and causing public confusion.

Datuk Harun said be would resign. Last December be went nn leave to face charges of corruption involving more than £180,000 and breach of trust concerning stocks and shares worth nearly £1.6m.—Reuter.

Las Vegas hotel staff strike leads to violence

Las Vegas, March 25.—A strike by hotel employees has led to outbreaks of violence and dimmed the neon brightness along Las Vegas's two-mile gambling strip.

Police reported bombings, shootings and stone-throwing in the last 48 hours as the strike at 15 establishments, called to back pay demands, entered its second week. They have arrested 72 striking kitchen hands, bartenders, musicians and stagehands trying to block roads to prevent gamblers reaching the casinos.

Eleven hotels have closed, and four have stayed open with reduced services but with gambling and drinking.—Reuter.

News balance ordered as Peru dismisses editors

Lima, March 25.—Peru's military Government has dismissed the editors of six national newspapers and told their replacements to print more balaoced and less alarmist news.

The immediate effect of the sudden changeover has been a marked reduction in coverage of communist-backed strike calls and an easing of extreme left-wing views. The new editors appointed to run the government newspaper *Cronica* and five of the six national dailies, which were expropriated from private owners by General Juan Velasco Alvarado, tbe former President, are known as moderates.

Peru's self-styled revolutionary Government has also imposed controls which could prevent journalists from launching any new publication not already in circulation. Labour guarantees in all newspapers have been suspended for 90 days, but the new editors, who took over on March 15, say they do not plan mass dismissals.

They replaced a group of left-wing intellectuals who were appointed by General Velasco before he was ousted in a peaceful coup last August by President Francisco Morales Barmudez. Only Señor Cesar Miro, who was named editor of *Ojo* earlier this month, survived the *purge*.

"We're going to give a more halanced view of things", Señor Juan José Vega, the new editor of *Expreso*, said. Señor José Vega, a history professor and former journalist, scrapped *Expreso's* extreme left-wing political column as soon as he became editor.

Four political writers on *Correo*, which printed hard-hitting left-wing comment, resigned when the new editor, Señor Atenor del Pozo, took over. The pro-communist weekly magazine *Marka* described the appointments as a lurch to the right.

Journalists bave petitioned the Government to open talks on the whole future of the national press. "Apart from being worried that we may lose our jobs until the 90-day period is up, many of us are concerned about the future of the newspapers", one journalist said.

He said that Government promises to hand over each national newspaper to a representative sector as part of a revolutionary plan to restructure Peruvian society was not takiog place.

The bandover, in wbich for example *Commercio* would become the rural workers' daily, and *Expreso* the newspaper of the education sector, should have been completed last July but was postponed for a year.

"If the Government genuinely wants to band the papers over to these sectors, then it should stop appointing editors and leave the sectors to make their own decisions", the journalist added.—Reuter.

Lady Kerr's divorce was speeded up, MPs told

Canberra, March 25.—Mr Robert Ellicott, the Attorney-General, has admitted that the wife of Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General of Australia, was given special treatment to divorce her former husband and marry Sir John.

Mr Ellicott said that Lady Kerr, formerly wife of Judge Hugh Robsoo, had her divorce proceedings beld out of normal court hours, the case was not listed, and the decree nisi was made absolute on the same day. She married Sir Jobn 11 days later on April 29 last year.

The Attorney-General told tha House of Representatives that information he gave Mr Gough Whitlam, the Labour Party leader, in answer to questioning oo Tuesday, was not correct.

He said then that particular people or groups of people could not get divorces quicker than others.

Mr Ellicott said yesterday it was now clear that Lady Kerr's case had not heen treated in the same way as othars.—Reuter.

Bringing medical care back to the surgery

In the present crisis afflicting the National Health Service, it is surprising how little thought has been given to the context in which the NHS was conceived. Some preliminary discussions between the medical profession and the government had taken place in the 1930s, but the detailed structure of the enormously complex organization was formulated between 1946 and 1948. Idealism was the main driving force, and nowhere could the socialist government planners look for help from previous experience. Nevertheless, in the early years the National Health Service was regarded with admiration—indeed with envy—by other countries.

In the past 25 years we have witnessed a revolution in medicine. A general textbook of medicine of the 1940s is now little more than an historical document. Even the younger generation of doctors has little insight into the relative simplicity of medical practice 30 years ago compared with the highly technological and scientific methods now used in recognizing and treating disease.

The layman still sees the doctor and medical care through a partly mystical haze, but is generally aware of some of the dramatic forms of treatment such as heart operations, artificial kidney treatment and kidney transplantation. The single biggest advance in treatment is, however, taken for granted, and neither patients nor younger doctors remember that all but one of the wide range of antibiotics have been introduced since the inception of the National Health Service. At that time penicillin was available in a few hospitals, and not at all to general practitioners.

This fact may have played an unforeseen part in changing the attitude of patients to medical care. Penicillin had become the "therapeutica magna" envisaged in the nineteenth century by Ehrlich, and this panacea was to be found only in hospital. At one blow the important role of the general practitioner was undermined, and tended to be further eroded by increasing bureaucracy. No longer was the general practitioner the prime mover in arranging for hospital admission; patients or their relatives demanded hospital care, in many cases with little justification.

The present enormous cost of the NHS cannot, however, be laid at the door of unnecessary admissions. The ward with patients is now in many cases a minor part of a hospital's activities—at times almost an irrelevancy, both administratively and in the light of many of the ancillary activities within the hospital. One has only to look at some of the changes that have occurred to appreciate the way in which the whole structure has radically altered, with the hospital becoming a complex technical compound.

The biochemical laboratory of today—with automation, fluorimetry, atomic absorption, electrophoresis and innumerable other new techniques—bears no relation to the bench with test tubes, pipettes and burettes of even 20 years ago. Modern laboratory hardware is enormously expensive and, far from reducing staffing, it has demanded an increase of two or threefold. What was the relatively simple microscopic examination of tissues in the histology laboratory has now had added many time-consuming and expensive techniques: electromicroscopy requires a whole new sub-department with its own staffing, quite apart from the large initial equipment cost.

The whole range of radioisotope diagnostic techniques has been developed in the past 20 years and brought with it scanning techniques for which a single apparatus may cost £100,000. The staffing for such departments requires highly trained physicists as well as technicians and a considerable demand on space has arisen. Radiological techniques have improved and expanded beyond all recognition, again requiring increased staffing, space and—money. Methods employing sound wave echo are proving of value in tumour diagnosis. Detection of increased thermal radiation, as found with breast and other tumours, is now in routine use. Bio-engineering in many forms has made possible some of the enormous advances in intensive care, haemodialysis with artificial kidneys, and open-heart surgery with the complicated precision equipment to divert the blood circulation from the heart. The investigation of brain abnormalities by electro-encephalography has demanded a separate department with complex electronic equipment for the neurologist.

In short, hospital medical practice has become a vast system of applied scientific techniques related to the central figure, the patient. The question that needs to be asked is whether this highly elaborate and expensive system is necessary for the majority of patient illnesses. Is this formidable backing necessary for an individual admitted to a hospital with a chest infection likely to respond to a course of antibiotics? What complex scientific support is required for the emergency appendicectomy, or even for the "cold" minor operations for hernia, piles and the like? Is it necessary for a self-administered drug overdose, where a period of rest and simple nursing care is all that is required in most instances. It is astonishing to realize that in many big hospitals 30 per cent of the medical, as opposed to surgical, ward admissions may be "attempted suicides" from drug overdose.

Although a few regional centres have been set up for highly specialized laboratory techniques, the health department has tended to pay homage at the altar of equality, and it has been the policy to develop most of the new technological back-up to any sizable hospital, with no serious analysis of the requirements in patient management for the common causes for hospital admission. It can equally be said that doctors have been carried away by the avalanche of techniques which has overtaken them and have not considered the economics or business side of medicine. It is doubtful whether 90 per cent of investigations in general wards need ever have been done for the welfare of the patient. Reliance on laboratory tests has undoubtedly diminished the clinical skills and self-confidence of doctors in care of the sick.

Possibly 80 per cent of patient/doctor time in the whole country involves general practitioners. The financial support on this basis has been woefully inadequate at the grass roots of medicine. Many GPs, in particular in densely populated areas, still work in totally inadequate premises and their facilities are little better than those of 30 years ago. Nevertheless, they are state employed no less than the hospital doctor. It is only recently that specialized training as a general practitioner has been available anywhere.

If any economic sense is to be introduced into the National Health Service, it seems essential to redeploy both manpower and technical resources. In these terms the greatest good for the greatest number will be to recognize that good clinical skill can manage most illnesses, with restricted and relatively simple technical backing. Although it can be argued that many patients admitted to hospital could be nursed at home, this has often become impracticable with the dispersion of families and both husband and wife working. The solution may lie in developing low cost beds, with medical and nursing supervision, but mainly based on the minimum necessary domestic help and increasing self or mutual care—as would have happened in the home. The medical supervision would logically be by members of group practices looking after their own or their partners' practices in rotation.

Only if a patient failed to respond to treatment, or if the initial presentation were too complicated, would specialist advice be sought. The general practitioner would in effect be the first line general physician, *and he so recognized*, by both the department and the patient, making it possible for the practitioner to fulfil his or her proper role. To relieve the unnecessary burden of seeing patients with minor ills, all patients could in the first instance be seen by a nurse assistant, who would be empowered to prescribe a restricted number of drugs. Reference to a partner in the practice would be at the nurse's discretion. This would give adequate time for the doctor to examine patients and inevitably to improve standards in many instances. It may result in the inevitable tranquillizer being replaced by greater understanding and sympathy in the doctor-patient relationship.

Once a patient had been admitted to a low-cost medical or surgical bed there would be the ancillary back-up which would include simple radiology, blood examination and culture of infective organisms. In the first place any further tests could be sent to a central laboratory. Whether extended routine biochemical screening has any place is doubtful, but could be prospectively assessed on a long-term basis.

If the general physician practitioner asked for specialist advice, this might result in transfer to a high cost bed, either surgical or medical, or a consultant might visit the patient with the practitioner for discussion.

Were the general scheme of low-cost beds to be introduced, this would concentrate specialist care in a relatively small number of centres, as opposed to the majority of larger hospitals trying to have available much of the highly expensive technical back-up that may become necessary only in a small proportion of patients. That such a proposal would meet with fierce opposition inside the profession is likely, but the criticisms will need very careful analysis.

The present discussions about the National Health Service place financial reward or party political dogmas to the fore. These appear more as window-dressing — and that with frosted glass—than any serious attempt to save what should be a great social good based on idealism.

A. M. Joekes

The author is a consultant nephrologist.

Rumer Godden: A passage to India and home again

"Once you have felt that Indian dust you will never be free of it", says Edward Gwithiam, in Rumer Godden's most recent novel, *The Peacock Spring*. Though Miss Godden has lived in Rye for some years now, she first went to India when she was six months old, and has been backwards and forwards from that day ever since. Her father was with the Inland Navigation, and "my mother had a very interesting life—we never went to the same hill station twice—we went to a different place every hot weather. I am deeply grateful that I had these unconventional parents. We really had a marvellous childhood from every point of view".

There were four sisters—Jon, Rumer, Nancy and Rose. Jon and Rumer wrote. "We were novelists before we were 14—I can't remember a time that I didn't write. There were no shops, no other children to play with, just the Goddens."

As with the Brontës, a our-sery full of talented children seemed to foster their writing talent. There was, as she says in the autobiographical introductions to her short stories *Swans and Turtles*, "an ineradicable bent for storytelling".

When she was 12 and Jon 14, "they sent us to an Anglican convent, where we lasted 10 weeks—it was terrible for the nuns and it was terrible for us. We just didn't understand—rather like the girls in Margaret Kennedy's *The Constant Nymph*—we didn't know how to behave. We were called sneaks—but we didn't know what sneaking was. A very miserable period. They decided we would be better separate. Jon went to art school—my family are artists, not writers—and they sent me to school in Eastbourne, which was terrible. I just couldn't believe it."

Salvation was on the way. The vice-principal of the school decided to teach Rumer herself. "At my first English lesson with her I said, 'I have had a book of poems published', and she looked me up and down and said, 'Who paid, the publisher or your mother?' And that was the end of me. I had answered one of those advertisements and I had paid for the book myself.

"She taught me for two years. When I see these creative writing courses in America it makes me laugh when I think what I had to do—reducing the leader in *The Times* to 14 lines. And then there was grammar, grammar, grammar all the time. It was wonderful!"

Rumer Godden still goes back to see her former teacher—now 81—to get her advice on the material in her lecture tours of the United States. "Unfortunately my parents decided to take me back to India, and so at 17 I was removed from school. My dear father was one of the real old school." No daughter of his should earn her living, and certainly not want to study Hindi, and on no account go to the bazaar, or take an interest in what was going on. It was a tough time, she says, which continued until she was 21. "I came into a little money then, and came back to England and trained as a teacher of dancing. I hurt my back as a child (I fell off a swing) and I could never do anything physical, though I have danced myself. I think I would have loved to be a dancer, very much."

Her novel *Candle for St Jude*, set in a ballet school, reflects her love and knowledge of the dance, for she started a dancing school in Calcutta, which was considered a frightful thing to do. "My father simply could not get over it, but I won." There, too, is where she learned about the Eurasians and their life, as portrayed in Alex, the children's beautiful governess in *The Peacock Spring*.

Success came first in 1939 with *Black Narcissus*, a novel about a small community of nuns in the Himalayas. "I was going up the Charing Cross Road in a bus, and there, strung between the two Foyles bookshops, was a banner which said 'Black Narcissus by Rumer Godden' and I had to get off the bus and go and look at it to make perfectly sure it was there and I wasn't dreaming. Once that has happened it is very difficult to get over it....

"I went back to nuns in *In This House of Brede*". The beginnings of this book, published in 1969, which took her five years to write, can be seen in the short story *Fireworks for Elspeth*, written in 1952, and the introduction reads: "All the characters in this book are imaginary, but many of the episodes are true; some are taken from the life and sayings of Dame Laurentia McLachlan and Sister Mary Ann McArdle of Stanbrook Abbey, Worcestershire."

"Some years ago one of my daughters had terrible trouble when she had her children—she had been told she must never have any. We asked the nuns to pray, and one of them wrote to her every week during her pregnancy." The child was born in good health, and there were two more to follow. Rumer Godden visits the nuns a good deal. "It is a lovely life to me—I have never met such *sanity*! And they all seem to know everything that is going on in the world."

Her next book is to be a history of the Pekinese. She has three, having owned and loved the breed since she was a girl. She finds them absolutely fascinating and says it is nonsense to call them lapdogs. "I took four of them up a mountain in Tibet and they didn't mind a bit."

Researching in libraries for the history of the Pekinese is slightly different from her usual method. "I have a very curious way of doing things. I write the book first, and then do the research afterwards. The books come from some experience, or 'something' that speaks to you—or doesn't. It's no good someone saying, why don't you write about so and so?"

This happened with her novel *The Battle of the Villa Fiorita*. "I wrote the whole thing before we went to Italy and set about finding a villa and a suitable lake. If you write about Como, it comes out too beautiful, so that wouldn't do, and so we went to Garda and found a villa which we rented for four months, while I did the research and discovered that it was absolutely impossible in Garda for the children to capsize a boat in the lake and be saved—once you go overboard, that's it, because the currents are so terrible. Princess Birabonghese, who was living next door, produced a crack Italian yachtsman and we spent about a month finding a way to stage the accident safely. In fiction you can't be fictitious. The only book I didn't do this on—and couldn't—is *In This House of Brede*—which is perhaps why I don't like the book.

"*Fugue in Time* took me eight years to write—because I could not find the right technique. I discovered that if I put the past into the present and the present into the past, it then worked. I have used this technique again in *China Court*, which covers five generations. It was my first experience of technical difficulties. It is a technique that is my own—nobody's ever remarked on it, which must mean that it works smoothly!" Usually she spends about two years on a book, but then there are other things. She writes children's books — *The Diddakoi* won the Whitbread Award in 1972, and renamed *Kizzy*, was a delightful children's television serial, just ended on BBC 1. She lectures in America, and is impressed by the number of people who come. "In Seattle I had to do the lecture twice. The first day the audience was 3,000; some of them drove 90 miles to be there. I think it was marvellous."

In Rye, she and her husband first lived in Lamb House. When her husband died in 1973, she bought her present house in Mermaid Street, virtually rebuilt it, and remade the garden. "James was a very English person. I became more reconciled to England, and now I do love it. I don't think I would live permanently anywhere else. I think that India was a very difficult country to live in when I was young—I like it much better now. I had no love for the British Raj. I remember when I was about 17 I read *A Passage to India* and thought 'I never realized we were like that', and then I looked about me and realized we were *very* 'like that'. It shocked me. I didn't know a single person from the West last time I was in Delhi—all my friends were Indians."

From India to England and back, the past is the present, the present is the past. As she quotes, in *Swans and Turtles*, from Marcus Aurelius: "Time is a stream in which there is no abiding."

Philippa Toomey

Support your local hosiery store

When women were openly burning their bras, Marks and Spencer's sales did much to prove that they immediately went out and bought new ones. They have not been quite so steadfast about girdles and corsets. The natural look, especially in trousers and long skirts, may demand stricter diets, but men and women both like it.

However, it now looks as though women are preparing to support their legs, perhaps to carry the extra stress involved by their equal opportunities for better jobs. The support tights market in America has been booming—something over 14 per cent of all hosiery sales over there are now in either leg support or control top tights, the control top doing very gently and unnoticeably what the girdle does. Here, a mere 2 per cent of sales are in such markets, but then there have been rather too few brands available and insufficient backing from retailers to offer them to a large shopping public.

Chic support hose, of the kind that still looked elegant rather than like some relief for varicose veins, were pioneered here by Elbeo, but at a price. Those who tried them after illness or for some other medical reason, became devotees. But, at something like £4 plus when stockings were dirt cheap, support hose were not exactly temptation purchases.

Of course, prices began to fall as expertise increased and as tights generally took over from stockings. And, just in case you believe that everyone wears tights now, it is worth noting that about 9-10 per cent of sales are still in stockings. Roughly half of those, I am told, are worn by older traditionalists. The other half by sexy youngsters.

That's still a lot of stockings when you realize that sales of hosiery (which includes tights and sockettes etc) run at around 620,000,000 pairs a year, with little change from one year to the next, although there is some slight hope of a sales uplift as women get out of trousers and into longer skirts and dresses. Taking statistics further, we each wear something like two dozen pairs of tights a year—other kinds of hosiery make up the rest of the total.

Oddly, tights have beaten inflation, rising by something like an average of between 2 and 3 per cent while everything else seemed to find it easy to manage as much as 25 per cent. The sad truth is that we must be about due for further increases in this sector, despite intense store and retailer competition which tends to hold prices down. A minimum of 10 per cent seems to be on the cards for standard tights at about 20 to 25p.

We shall still be luckier than our American and EEC counterparts. In America, an average price for tights is about $1.20, which is about double the British price even when adjusted to higher wages and other costs of living. Support tights over there are about $2.50, so we are doing pretty well with Pretty Polly "Stand Easies" at 90p (after a year at 85p). To follow them come "Non-Stops" which give added support to legs, leaving them as sheerly exposed as any ordinary tights. The emphasis is on "added" support, as these are not your familiar stronger support tights, but at 65p the pair, who is complaining? Trio Tights, which combine a Tendrelle yarn leg with a Lycra control girdle top, are also going to be 65p. Watch the stores discount them, as I am sure they will. Then watch the multiple packs of two, three or five pairs begin to appear, as I am sure they will. And I reckon it will not be many months before you can support (lightly) for 50p a pair.

By this time next year, it will be out of step to be totally unsupported. All it needs is the extra push this kind of leg and tummy wear is about to get. Even so, fashions like this take a long time to catch on. The optimists reckon it will be 1980 before control tights come anywhere near 10 per cent of all hosiery sales. Then, they tell me, the demand will rush ahead for "sheer, sexy support". I wish I knew quite what that is.

Sheila Black

The confusion (over gimmickry in cut-price food prices)

When Keymarkets took over David Greig two years ago they began a gradual process of eliminating the Greig name on shops. Now they are reversing the process and calling all their large supermarkets Keymarkets and their smaller shops David Greig.

The aim of this "divisionalization" is to end confusion arising from the different price levels pursued by the company. Prices in the supermarkets are lower than in the small shops, and in those towns where there was one of each, both called Keymarkets, shoppers became understandably confused.

The company has decided to celebrate "divisionalization" by issuing a list of 163 groceries for which "our prices will be demonstrably and recognizably cheaper than our competitors' regular prices".

The lists are conspicuous on many Keymarket windows and they include a very full range of groceries from eggs and cream to tinned fish and pot scourers. But in eliminating one source of confusion the company has created another.

By carefully comparing their prices with the "regular" prices of competitors the company has stated by implication that it does not invite comparison of its prices with those promoted by competitors.

A fortnight ago Lord Allen of Fallowfield, general secretary of the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, said that shoppers were confused by the "gimmickry" of varied cut-price offers. Keymarkets have helped to prove his point.

There are many price levels. The highest is that recommended by some manufacturers and published in wholesale papers and trade lists, but not for general circulation.

Since there is now no resale price maintenance, since wholesalers themselves make cut-price offers to shopkeepers, and since manufacturers offer discounts to shopkeepers who make exceptionally large purchases, recommended prices are more often undercut than not.

There are also promotional prices, sometimes lower than resale rates, which are heavily advertised to attract shoppers away from rival supermarkets. By comparing its 163 bargains with the "regular" prices of competitors Keymarkets have indicated without spelling it out in detail that they do not invite comparisons with their rivals' deep-cut promotions.

But while giving their own list in detail they do not tell shoppers how a comparison with prices elsewhere can be made. They do not say how a "regular" price is to be distinguished from an irregular one.

They support their claim by quoting prices at Sainsbury, Fine Fare, Wallis Brothers and Tesco. Most of the prices they quote from those companies are higher than the Keymarket prices, and many of those which are lower are identified as promotional offers.

Keymarkets do not want their price comparison to be published. But another is available in the form of the weekly survey of supermarket prices published by the Enterprise consumer group in Hampshire.

Keymarkets quote 12½p for a 15¾oz tin of Heinz baked beans. In the Enterprise survey, that is matched by the Carrefour Hypermarket at Eastleigh, Torbocks supermarket in the same town, Tesco and Safeway. Macmarkets are quoted at 12p and five stores at more than 12½p.

A packet of 10 Birds Eye cod fish fingers are offered by Keymarkets at 36p. Six stores in the Enterprise survey beat that price and four fail to match it.

Clearly the worth of 163 offers cannot be judged by three alone. But Keymarkets give no help to the shopper who wants to compare their prices with those of rivals.

Hugh Clayton

Film which aspires only to delight and entertain

David Robinson

The Slipper and the Rose (u)
Empire, Leicester Square

Rachel's Man (a)
Odeon, Marble Arch

The Sellout (aa)
Warner West End

...s to the first translator of ...rault, who mistook *en vair* ... *en verre*, that the English Cinderella owes the finishing touch of magic, the glass slippers which replace the more sensible shoes of fur she wears in every other version of the universal tale. Regardless of footwear, though, this remains one of those few great essential stories which seem never to lose in the retelling.

Yet it is over 60 years since anyone in the English-speaking cinema had the sophistication to offer audiences anything so unsophisticated, at least played by real live actors. *Cinderella* has been left to the Christmas pantomime and the makers of cartoon films until the new Bryan Forbes film version, with music and songs by Richard M. and Robert B. Sherman.

But then, *The Slipper and the Rose* is altogether a bold innovation in contemporary cinema, as a film which sets out only to please, delight, charm, seduce and entertain, without any ulterior object of impressing by cleverness or thrilling with the sort of stimulation of sluggish sensations that has become the stuff of most English-language cinema. The intentions alone are appealing; and the film to a great extent achieves them.

The book is bright and funny and has the right pantomime quality of comic anachronism and contemporary reference. The alterations to the story are variations, not departures. The music and musical numbers are recognizably from the same stable as *Mary Poppins* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. There is one of the Sherman brothers' favourite funny-word songs ("Protocoligorically Correct") and several of their malapropisms (how do you "perform" amenities?); but it's good for singing and dancing (Richard Chamberlain and Christopher Gable in a wonderful acrobatic number, "What a comforting Thing to Know") or prancing (Michael Hordern as King, Kenneth More as Chancellor and cavorting elder statesmen in "Protocoligorically"; and several other chorus numbers as deftly staged by Marc Breaux).

Bryan Forbes has an understanding of and an undisguised affection for British actors—among whom it seems reasonable to include Richard Chamberlain, the ultimate and ideal Prince Charming, since he seems so successfully bent on being British. Casting Cinderella is always a difficulty: Gemma Craven is a nice little thing, if inclined to smirk; but she's hardly a princess to electrify a ballroom.

For the rest the casting cannot be faulted. Queening it, inevitably, is Dame Edith Evans as the Prince's grandmother, dramatically breaking out of her study of White Queen senility to sing and dance with formidable grace. Michael Hordern is fully revealed for the great comic actor he is, supported by Lally Bowers as his scatty Queen and Kenneth More who demonstrates how well British actors ripen with age into comedians.

Annette Crosbie is a beautifully eccentric fairy godmother, somewhere between a television hostess and a district nurse, bickering with the Little Red Hen in between ghosting stories for Scheherazade, and complaining of being whirled off her feet. Margaret Lockwood returns to the screen as a Wicked Lady stepmother, flanked by the whimpery ugly sisters. Taking the hint from Rosalind Ayres's resemblances to the young Elsa Lanchester, they have got her up as the *Bride of Frankenstein*.

It's all very joyous in fact and extremely pretty, with exteriors shot in and around Salzburg, and elsewhere enough vagueness about period and style to give the Kingdom of Euphrania a proper disorientation. There are witty pastiches of Watteau and of Devis conversation pieces. The only regrettable anachronisms are the rather common twentieth-century hybrid teas that provide the rose motif; and the swirling, over-orchestrated music for the hall scene.

The nerve it took to make *Cinderella* did not quite last out to the end. Lacking confidence in the traditional happy end, the film-makers apparently felt obliged to add their own sophisticated coda. Initially the idea looks quite a good one: an upside-down transformation scene, in which the fairy-tale characters suddenly turn into real-life politicians. The marriage is deemed unacceptable for diplomatic reasons: Cinderella becomes a Mrs Simpson, but with the self-sacrificial instinct of a Marguerite Gautier.

The only logical ending to this, though, would be a tragic ending; and the scenario has to tangle itself into a rather weak resolution of the situation in order to arrive at a second and much less satisfactory happy end. The faltering of the last couple of reels is a clear lesson that it's best to trust the old stories on their own terms.

But it's only the last couple of reels, and by that time the film has stirred enough affection to be forgiven much, and in any case offers us a final "walk-down" which is an endearing and unpretentious homage to Christmas pantomime. If its defiance of fashion and determination to charm rather than shock get their proper due, *The Slipper and the Rose* should be handsomely rewarded at the box office.

It is paradoxical that while all over the world Jews have made the greatest contribution to the development of the art and the industry of the cinema, Israel's film industry has been fairly disastrous, with the notable exception of the recent comedies of Moshe Misrahi.

This does not, it seems, prevent Israel from exerting an influence — albeit dire — on international production, through co-productions. Last week it was *Diamonds*: this week brings two Israeli-based productions. Moshe Misrahi himself has directed *Rachel's Man*, produced by Michael Klinger and based closely on *Genesis xxviii to xxxiii*. These chapters, it may (or may not, in these godless times) be recalled, reveal Old Testament characters at their most reprehensible, masters of the dirty trick. Jacob, sent by the Lord to Haran, agrees to work for seven years for his uncle Laban to win the hand of his cousin Rachel. At the end of the time, Laban cunningly slips his plain elder daughter into Jacob's marriage bed instead. Finally Jacob gets Rachel as well, and with the aid of two wives, several concubines, the magic power of the *mandrake* and the *curious* gynaecological customs of the *Hebrews*, procreates the children of Israel.

He still has a few more confidence tricks up his sleeve, even though the film glosses over some of the nastier activities of Jacob's family. (In the original, Rachel absconds with her father's idols, and when he catches up with her hides them under her skirt and says she's sorry she can't get up but she has the Custom of Women upon her. Later, Jacob tricks the Hivites into mass circumcision with the promise of a marriage alliance, whereupon two of his sons descend on the tribe while they're still very sore and poorly, and slaughter the lot.)

Except for Old Testament scholars, it is hard to see what anyone thought the attractions of this out-of-the-way subject might be—even if it had been written and played a great deal less ineptly. The single compensation is Mickey Rooney, who makes Laban a likeably monkeyish and comic old reprobate.

The Sellout is a quite incoherent farrago of nonsense about CIA and KGB agents, double agents and double double agents on the rampage in Israel. Richard Widmark, Oliver Reed, Gayle Hunnicutt and Sam Wanamaker give no evidence of having any more idea than the spectator what it is all about. It is made an excuse for a lot of the roughing-up and car smashing in which the director Peter Collinson is something of a specialist, and which, it is comforting to note, suddenly looks extraordinarily dated.

Israel is better treated in Susan Sontag's documentary essay *Promised Lands*, which will have special matinées on the next three Sunday afternoons at the Phoenix, East Finchley. At its earlier screening by The Other Cinema the film appears to have equally enraged extreme left and extreme right, which may well be a tribute to Sontag's determined objectivity and refusal of easy conclusions and easy judgments.

The film was shot during the 1973 Yom Kippur conflict; and the apparently random collage of scenes of preparation for battle and the disasters of war, of light-hearted recruits and haunted casualties, of religious devotees and political sceptics, adds up to give sharp insights into divisions and dilemmas in the race that seem often to go back to the Old Testament itself.

As a welcome to its new neighbour on the South Bank, the National Film Theatre is presenting a series of 25 programmes of "World Theatre on Film". They range from old documents on the Moscow Art Theatre and glimpses of Brecht at rehearsal (filmed 22 years ago on 8mm by the young Hans-Jürgen Syberberg) to the 1970 Pekin Opera's agitational *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy* and Ariane Mnouchkine Théâtre de Soleil production *1789*.

The oddities and rarities include Alfred Hitchcock's 1930 film of *Juno and the Paycock* with several of the original Abbey Theatre cast, including Barry Fitzgerald and Maire O'Neill. Albert Finney will comment on Colin Ford's compilation of archive film of actors like Bernhardt, Duse, Ellen Terry and Beerbohm Tree. Maybe, though, it is less than kind to have recalled on this occasion Olivier's *The Three Sisters* or Peter Hall's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, apparently shot in a bog.

Richard Chamberlain and Gemma Craven

This heroine is human

Don Carlos
Coliseum

Richard Evidon

Josephine Barstow is the ENO's new Elizabeth of Valois. She is youthful and lovely, and sheer verisimilitude immediately, powerfully arrests sympathy for the benevolent woman reassuring her war-ravaged subjects. Miss Barstow then charts Elizabeth's progress from lovesick princess to tragic queen with singing and acting of exceptionally vivid, consistent and precisely defined emotions.

This heroine is regal and vibrantly human. In her two strophes of consolation she fills the soaring lines with ample, bright and unbroken tone, avoiding easy sentimentality. In her anguished confrontation with Philip she amplifies the vocal gestures with a tragedienne's careful movements. Few sopranos have the courage to take Verdi at his word and to save their dolcissimos and pianissimos for the *preghiera* and closing scene. In doing this Miss Barstow made the last act unusually poignant and emotionally fulfilling.

The performance ended up being about Elizabeth of Valois, but the volcanic and voluptuous Eboli of Elizabeth Connell grew splendidly in strength and credibility after an insubstantial Veil Song (she hasn't the mezzo tints to murmur exotically round those low Es). The men were outclassed. Tom Swift's Carlos sounded dutifully stylish but looked utterly unconvincing. Clifford Grant's Philip has lost some of his former authority, and was no match for Dennis Wick's imperious Grand Inquisitor. Posa's burning idealism was often quenched by Christian du Plessis's foppishly insincere demeanour. Mark Elder's broadly affectionate pacing needs no justification in this grandest of operas; in later performances he will surely start and sustain each tempo more steadily and improve the shaky ensemble.

Miss Barstow is cause for another look at his misconceived, visually muddled production. It has a few virtues of its own: it is beautifully lit; Carlos's suicide is an effective solution to the final curtain dilemma; the present performing text (the familiar revision plus the whole Fontainebleau act) ought to be adopted universally; Andrew Porter's translation from the French is unaffectedly eloquent.

Triple bill
Covent Garden

John Percival

The Royal Ballet last night repeated last week's triple bill with alternative casts in most of the leading roles. Any programme that has Nureyev's Apollo as its centrepiece is set fair for success. It is among his finest roles, not only danced with superb muscular control, but also modulated to convey a powerful development from the newborn child to the god assuming his birthright. Lyon Seymour, Ann Jenner and Laura Connor as his three muses gave expressive support.

Nureyev's Apollo is by now familiar; his Oberon is new to London. For three-quarters of its length I thought it a better performance than he gave at Edinburgh last autumn, perhaps because the larger stage suits him better. But he flagged during the long main solo, which could be the lingering result of his recent illness.

Much of his dancing showed him in excellent form, especially the many pirouettes which are a motif of the role. His acting, too, is both vivid and individually conceived within the framework of Ashton's choreography. He reveals a rare majesty in the role, and at the same time more humour than it generally has. But if he is to continue in the part he really should have second thoughts about his unflattering variant on the costume.

The other work was *The Concert*, with Laura Connor replacing Seymour. Her facial expressions are not so unfailingly funny, but she does bring off some delicious touches, especially at the moment when she realizes that her chair has been removed from beneath her and apprehensively looks round. Eloquently expressive gestures enable her to fill out the part with uproarious success.

David Wall played the erring husband and Vergie Derman his wife. In place of Georgina Parkinson's implacable severity, Derman offers a stern gentility which serves equally well in overwhelming her husband and every other man in sight. Wall substitutes an almost apoplectic frenzy for the genial enthusiasm which Michael Coleman displays in his philanderings, and instead of retiring behind a copy of *The Times* he uses the *Daily Another Newspaper*: a subtle touch, that, to bring out the true enormity of the character.

Rita Streich
Camden Festival

Alan Blyth

In a musically complicated world, Rita Streich's recitals often please for their blessed simplicity of approach. She chooses songs that suit her bright but *monochrome* soprano, then treats them with good taste. *Hers* are not very searching interpretations but ones that have the merit of firm, rhythmic control and unaffected grace.

So it was again at the Town Hall, Euston Road, last night, with Geoffrey Parsons accommodating himself to her style like the sensitive accompanist he always is.

At first all was not vocally well. A touch of strain and unaccustomed threads in the tone spoilt an imaginative little Mozart group, although enough was suggested in "Un moto di gioia", written as an alternative to "Deh vieni", to remind us of Miss Streich's old role of Susanna, but hereabouts charm and a way with words had to make up for the shortcomings.

Her Schubert was an odd mixture. "I'm Frühling" surely has hidden sorrows not really touched upon by either singer or player and "Das Lied im Grünen" really needs to soar more easily in praise of spring. The lighter and effervescent setting of Schlegel's "Der Schmetterling" was another matter. Here the dancing, inquiring butterfly was caught perfectly on the wing both in voice and piano, and Miss Streich's interpretation was pointed but never arched.

There were similar contrasts in a Greig group, the delights of a first meeting of lovers, "Erstes Begegnen" was more surely related than the more mature passion of "Ich liebe dich", but a selection of Brahms's always welcome folk-song settings was wholly successful.

Richard Strauss is, of course, natural Streich territory, although "Die Nacht" really calls for more variety and tonal contrast than she can bring to it. "All' mein Gedanken" and even the cloying "Schlagende Herzen" fell willingly under her gaze. Two old favourites, Schumann's "Der Nussbaum" and Schubert's "Seligkeit" proved apt encores, confirming the impression of Miss Streich as an instinctive rather than a particularly original interpreter. Both those songs and the Strauss benefited from Mr Parsons's attentive and easily phrased accompaniments.

Picabia in pursuit of the new

Francis Picabia
Grand Palais, Paris

Paul Overy

In Britain Picabia is little more than a name and an odd painting or drawing in a mixed exhibition or an illustration in an art book. He has not been much better known in Paris and the large exhibition at the Grand Palais until Monday reveals him as a far more interesting figure than is generally acknowledged. Rich, handsome, talented and intelligent, fond of fast cars and machinery in general—like Marinetti, Robert Delaunay (whose work is to be shown at the Orangerie des Tuileries this summer) and Edward Wadsworth in England, his reputation has remained depressed until recently, and for similar reasons. And Picabia was suspected of right-wing sympathies in the Thirties and during the war; his later painting was mostly bad. Little of his best work has hitherto been available.

He was born in 1879: his father was of Spanish origin and vice-consul at the Cuban Embassy. His mother was French. The early works at the Grand Palais show that he was extraordinarily accomplished. That easy but by no means always facile accomplishment is both the strength and weakness of his work. After successful years in his mid-twenties painting in an assured post-Impressionist style, he moved through Fauvism to a dynamic interpretation of Cubism. He became involved with the "Groupe de Puteaux" (Duchamp, Villon, Duchamp-Villon, Gleizes, Metzinger, Leger). With the enormous inflation of Duchamp's reputation in recent years, Picabia has tended to be regarded as a rather trivial camp-follower. But in many ways he was the initiator, never remaining with one style for long. It would be easy to dismiss his work as eclectic, superficial and without centre. But at his best, between 1913 and 1923, he was more than this. He is an extraordinarily representative artist in that he displays at an extreme the restlessness of so much twentieth-century art: the pursuit of the new for its own sake.

In 1913 he went to New York for the Armoury Show and returned several times during the war. Alfred Steiglitz, photographer and promoter of all that was new in art, was a powerful influence. America itself was no less. His paintings and drawings in which machine imagery predominates date from this time. They are quite different from those of Duchamp. But for all Picabia's obsession with fast cars, these are not naive outpourings of an optimistic passion for machines. They are comic, ironic, aware, without Duchamp's cerebral cynicism, but nevertheless wry comments on the influence of the machine on men's lives, emotions and ways of thinking: a sparking plug inscribed "For ever" becomes *Portrait d'une jeune fille american dans l'état de nudité*.

In the Twenties he made some ingenious and witty collages of toothpicks, straws, matches, to create fantasy landscapes, plants, trees. *Plumes*, with its clear blue sky and sinuous line of hill, and palm trees made of feathers and straws, looks like an early Hockney. These are lightweight works, but not trivial. *La veuve joyeuse* of 1921, shown as a photographic blow-up in the exhibition, could have been done in the Seventies. A bare canvas on which is stuck a photograph of Picabia at the wheel of one of his cars, with the legend "Photographie", and underneath a sketch drawing based on the photo, labelled "Dessin".

In the late Thirties he painted women in a vulgar and unpleasant magazine style, which some have seen as anticipating the Pop Art of the Sixties. With an artist who anticipates so much, that is arguable, but misleading. There is no real connexion. They are very bad and very vulgar paintings. (Although, admittedly, so was a lot of Pop.) After the war he returned to a rather hazy abstraction. He died in 1953.

The last 20 years of Picabia's life were undoubtedly a decline which had begun even earlier, although there are occasional sparks of his quick, earlier surface brilliance. But in the two huge *Udine* paintings of 1913-14, the machine works, and his Dada activity in Paris around 1920, his contribution was original and will last.

Charles Rosen
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Joan Chissell

Charles Rosen is not just a pianist, but a musical thinker: his playing proclaims that fact no less than his writings. He cleared away all sentimental accretions in his programme last night, like a surgeon cutting through flesh to reveal the anatomical marvels below. It was enormously stimulating to have so much light on the way each work was made. But the recital was less memorable for communication of feeling, or as a feast of sound.

Schumann's *Kreisleriana* brought some of the most arresting discoveries in terms of inner strands and quirkish streaks of fancy, all laid bare with outstanding textural clarity except in No 7, which was too fast for anything to tell, especially in the fugal section. A blaze of warmth would have been preferable to accent-hunting in the second episode of the finale, although its main section was delightfully droll. All the way through Mr Rosen was supremely successful in relating and integrating the different parts and tempi of each piece.

Whereas some players adopt a new tempo for each new theme, Mr Rosen swept through the first movement of Beethoven's *Appassionata* with an unyielding brusqueness effective in its own, stark way, even if some of the music's mystery was lost. The Andante was notable for scrupulous attention to detailed points of emphasis commonly overlooked or obscured in pursuit of romantic expression.

The opening work was Haydn's C minor sonata (H20) of 1771, in its internal unrest always recognized as a landmark in the composer's keyboard development, but not often made to sound as startlingly new and strange as on this occasion, especially the fraught first movement. To end, Mr Rosen chose Liszt's *Reminiscences of Don Juan*. Though tone per se could have been more seductive, he cleverly "orchestrated" the piece and never allowed virtuoso thrills (of which there were plenty) to distract attention from strokes of structural cunning.

NPO/Andrew Davis
Festival Hall

Stephen Walsh

At 17, Marius May is still something of a phenomenon among cellists, as his playing of the Schumann concerto last night reminded us. But some of his thunder was nevertheless stolen by the New Philharmonia, whose form these days is much more like the resonances aroused by their name.

Under Andrew Davis, they started the evening with a beautiful performance of Berlioz's *Carnaval romain*, and they ended it in the grand manner with superlative playing of Elgar's Second Symphony.

As a balanced instrumental force the NPO have certainly improved out of all recognition. There were early difficulties with ensemble in the Berlioz, but once they were sorted out we were able to enjoy some outstandingly refined string playing and, in the Elgar, a brilliantly sustained display of corporate music-making, very much in keeping with the tone of Andrew Davis's reading, which went far towards pruning (not, of course, physically) the worst indulgences of this inspired but overwritten score.

Schumann's Cello Concerto has in common with the Elgar symphony a certain taste for rambling down attractive and more or less relevant by-ways, and in that it obviously suits Marius May's style well enough. As a lyrical player he is already top-class, with a singing tone and a command of inflexion which Casals himself might have envied. Technically he seems a little less forward. His slow tempo for the short slow movement was a point of interpretation, but there were times in the finale when the music threatened to run down from lack of real natural bravura.

Another explanation could be that Mr May is by tendency an introverted musician. But extraversion is not unlearnable, and it is necessary, within reason, for a concerto-player. It is perhaps the only vital weapon missing

A dream game

The Land of Palms
Orange Tree, Richmond

Irving Wardle

David Cregan is a dramatist who writes big plays for small stages, which presumably accounts for his disapperance from central London in favour of adventurous provincial companies. Even so, it is amazing that a piece as good as this should have taken four years to move within reach of London audiences since its first appearance at Dartington.

Cregan's special talent is for dramatizing Anglo-Saxon attitudes by creating fantastic actions well removed from daily experience. His characters could be played in masks and they go a long way towards achieving Gide's old dream of a *commedia* of modern life.

This gives him the rare advantage of being able to start with a theme rather than a story. In this play he is concerned with the collision of authoritarian tradition and drop-out morality: a forbiddingly abstract starting point which he converts into a power struggle between an idealistic collective and a splinter group of the Foreign Legion for control of an oasis in the North African desert.

The piece is at once a dream and a game, picking up the tiny but incurable resentments we carry from childhood and magnifying them into a life-and-death affair and locating them in an action bristling with impossible coincidences so as to set extravagent improbability in comic contrast with everyday banality.

The two privates march into the desert under the command of their luscious leader (Christina Greatrex). On invading the oasis, one discovers his long-lost enemy and the other his long-lost girlfriend. The commune defend themselves simply by failing to recognize there is a war on. The most motherly of the group solicitously inquires to the most bellicose of the Legionnaires: "I used to be a primary school teacher, would you like to talk to me?"

Meanwhile Moles (Sam Kelly) the group's spiritual leader, is slowly unwrapping a parcel marked "N. Moles, North Africa" which proves to contain a mitre which he dons to deflower the enemy commander.

In the second act, the fantasy runs amuck and loses some of its all-important realistic underpinning. Otherwise, the collision between the two moralities is sustained with extraordinary mental agility and capacity for surprise.

Conventionally staged the play might seem ridiculous. Played as it is at the Orange Tree on a neutral floor area with the simplest lighting, it carries absolute conviction. Rhys McConnochie's company, all unknown to me, play with wit, elegance, and an unshakable sincerity which confidently cantilevers the fantasy out into the void.

SPORT

Racing

Get Ready should go well for Jarvis at start of flat season

By Michael Seely

Get Ready can start Michael Jarvis off in fine style in his first season as a public trainer by winning the Betthyany Handicap on the opening day of the flat racing season at Doncaster this afternoon. Having acted as private trainer for eight years to David Robinson, Jarvis now has only 28 horses belonging to the millionaire among the string of 60 he has charge of at Clarehaven Lodge.

Get Ready, who was Mr Robinson's first two-year-old winner last season, could well provide the answer to this fiercely competitive sprint handicap. A daughter of that fast sprinter, On Your Mark, Get Ready put up a captivating display at the Guineas meeting at Newmarket last spring. Bursting out of the stalls the filly was soon well clear of her field. Although she started to look about her and idle at the finish she still handed out a decisive beating to such useful horses as Corriefoil, Everything Nice and Nagwa. Not surprisingly Get Ready was then considered one of the certainties of the Derby meeting over the sharp downhill five furlongs at Epsom, but the filly proved a dismal failure finishing last behind Hey Presto. She never ran again last season, but I understand that she has pleased her trainer in her home work this spring.

Our Newmarket Correspondent admits to a preference for Douglas Smith's Self Satisfied. There is also a whisper for the Bill Wightman-trained Raffia Set, but I shall rely on Get Ready's fantastic early pace.

A Newmarket trainer who could well saddle two winners this afternoon is Bill Marshall who has just moved to Suffolk from Whitsbury. In the French Gate Stakes Marshall runs Touch of Gold, who is well treated by the conditions of this mile and a quarter race. A winner at Brighton last season, Touch of Gold ran well on several other occasions, notably when beaten by Chil the Kite in the Rose of York Handicap at the Ebor meeting. Touch of Gold's best form has been shown over a mile, but at these weights he should prove too good for such as Mount Street, Priestlaw and Gunner B.

In the Opening Two-Year-Old Selling Stakes Marshall's representative, Right Vale, has the merit of being bred for the job. By Right Tack, she is a half-sister to several winners and may prove too sharp for a filly by Forlorn River, Costa Beck, trained by Clifford Watts at Bridlington.

Another strongly-fancied runner from Newmarket is Silver Steel, whom Clive Brittain runs in the March Stakes. Silver Steel did well as a two-year-old, particularly when giving Treasury Bond a hard fight at Goodwood. But that was in heavy going and on today's better ground I am siding with Pirate Dream, trained by Duncan Keith. Pirate Dream won a maiden race at Sandown Park last July and also ran the Chesham Stakes winner, Smuggler, to threequarters of a length at Newbury. Pirate Dream's form is marginally superior to that of Silver Steel.

The jumping enthusiasts were kept on their toes by the enthralling finishes at Doncaster yesterday. The evidence of the camera was needed to decide the winner in the first three races. In an exciting climax to the Baxter Gate Handicap Steeplechase Hilda's Hurricane and Totor's Best passed the post locked together. In the ring the bookmakers laid odds against Hilda's Hurricane, whose jockey, Tommy Stack, shared their view that he had been beaten. After a long delay it was announced that Hilda's Hurricane had won by a short head.

STATE OF GOING (official): Doncaster: Good. Devon and Exeter: Good. Bangor (tomorrow): Good to soft. Hexham: Soft. Newbury: Good to firm.

Thoughts on a magical day at Ascot last summer

Grundy and Bustino honoured

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Time alone will tell whether the new flat racing season will be vintage or drab; whether it will be quickly forgotten or whether it will harbour memories like those of last summer when on one magical day in July the season was made as far as most of us were concerned. Ascot was the scene: Diamond day, as it has become known, the occasion and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes the race in question.

No one has ever said that Grundy and Bustino, the two equine heroes principally involved that afternoon, were the greatest racehorses ever to put head through a bridle, but they were certainly two of the bravest and by common consent they staged one of the greatest races in most people's memory. It was a race which left seasoned racegoers watery eyed and lost for words. Discussing the occasion much later in a letter which she wrote to me, Mrs Jack Colling said: "Wonderful, isn't it, that in this workaday world we live in, something like that can just very occasionally happen to lift us all up into another orbit." No words could have captured the mood of that day more succinctly.

I mention them because Susan Colling was one of many who felt moved by the occasion and wrote to Grundy's trainer, Peter Walwyn, afterwards to congratulate him. But her letter was different. It was in verse. Lack of space prevents us from including the whole of Mrs Colling's poem, but I cannot let her spontaneous gesture from the heart pass without quoting from it:

I've heard the speak with bated breath
Or heroes of the past
And how the giants of yesterday
In sterner moulds were cast.
And yet, I'll vow that nobody
Who saw the battle joined
Will see two braver spirits fired
With finer 'mettle' coined.

That, in a nutshell, was it. Grundy and Bustino may not have been as brilliant as some of their predecessors but their race showed them in a wonderful light,

And those of us who witnessed it
Thanked God that we were there.

There are, in my opinion, few more exciting things in life than a tense duel between two class thoroughbreds, trained to the minute and ridden to perfection, and this was the prime example. It was a race which was tactically faultless and dramatically played out.

A pride of lions had been deployed
To make the chestnut crack

That was Mrs Colling's reference to Bustino's pair of pacemakers, Kinglet and Highest, who, first one and then the other, set such a scorching gallop from the word go that a new record time was virtually inevitable. For ages afterwards the BBC were inundated with requests for the film of the race to be shown again. Every time I see that film I marvel at the pace at which the race was run from the outset.

So when the hardworked henchmen
Of bold Bustino's team
Had given all they had to give
'Himself' came on the scene.

Reference there to Bustino as he made his break for glory. Patrick Eddery, the champion jockey, who was riding Grundy, was not caught unawares when Joe Mercer dashed the older Bustino into the lead fully half a mile from home. But the move was so brilliantly executed by both horse and rider that for a second or two the thought occurred not only to Eddery but also to those of us watching in the stands that the destiny of the glittering prize could well have been decided in those few crucial seconds.

But just as they were pondering
This splendid show of strength
The brilliant little chestnut closed
To just within a length.
And then, as breathlessly we watched,
He inched his way beyond . . .
Beyond the powers of our belief—
The three year old—the blond,
Mane and tail like banners waving,
Blazing in the sun,
He lowered down his precious head
And fought and fought—and fought and won!

Drained of emotion, deafened by the noise, the like of which I had never heard before on a racecourse, we hurried off the stands to welcome the victor and the vanquished. Of course the result mattered, yet in a way it mattered not.

In victory and defeat those two brave horses had done enough, more, in fact, in the space of two and a half minutes, for the reputation of racing than others had done in a lifetime. Everywhere you looked people were ecstatic, caring not to which camp they belonged. Somehow one simply felt that it was a privilege to be there.

Putting her finger on the pulse, Mrs Colling ended her verse with these words:

One thing I know however
Whenever friends may meet
To talk of things equestrian;
Of fourfold, flying feet.
The arguments may rage around
From Saturday to Monday
They'll never ever beat the day
Bustino bowed to Grundy.

And coming from somebody firmly entrenched in Bustino's camp those were some words. Sue and Jack Colling still live in West Ilsley, where Bustino was trained and where Jack was the master until he handed over the stables there to Dick Hern. Perhaps it is too much to hope that we should be lucky enough to witness a comparable occasion this season. After all, they are few and far between. But at least the message of class, quality, skill and endeavour that helped to light up so many radiant faces last July will help to sustain us during the weeks ahead when at least we can still hope.

Motor racing

Seven cars out of US race before it starts

From John Blunsden
Long Beach, California, March 25

For seven of the drivers who have assembled here for the United States Grand Prix West the long journey to California is destined to prove a waste of time. Only 20 cars will be permitted to start on Sunday, even though the length (just over two miles), width and distance from the start line to the first corner of the Monaco-like street circuit would normally have allowed 24 starters.

The decision to restrict numbers is a conscious effort to reduce the chances of a multi-car accident in the crowded opening seconds of the race, as occurred in Spain last year. Following the Spanish race a hurried decision was made to reduce the numbers of starters at Monaco, two weeks later, from 24 cars to 18. There is also a move here to force drivers to run the first two corners of the race under the yellow flag, which would prohibit any passing, but it is difficult to imagine how this would work with so many cars rushing away from the start line side by side.

The line-up of 27 cars and drivers is the best turnout so far this season. March are numerically the strongest team, with Merzario having joined Peterson, Brambilla and Stuck, while there are two cars each from Ferrari (Lauda and Regazzoni), McLaren (Hunt and Mass), Tyrrell (Scheckter and Depailler), Lotus (Evans and Nilsson), Brabham (Pace and Reutemann), Shadow (Pryce and Jarier), Surtees (Jones and Lunger), Williams (Ickx and Leclere) and Copersucar (Fittipaldi and Hoffman), and single-car entries from Penske (Watson), Parnelli (Andretti), Ligier (Laffite), Ensign (Amon) and Hesketh (Ertl).

Since the inaugural race here in September for formula 5000 cars, the line of some of the corners has been subtly altered so that the official lap record of 1min 19sec set by the late Tony Brise may well prove an elusive target on Sunday. The brilliant young English driver made a great impression here last year, and his name is to be perpetuated on a memorial trophy which will be awarded to the driver making the fastest lap in the grand prix. Brise would have been 24 on the day of this year's race.

The difficulty of qualifying during the next two days is heightened by a general feeling that the Long Beach circuit will take a heavy toll of brakes and drive shafts due to the start-stop nature of much of the course, although there is one right-hand curve along the shoreline where the cars reach over 160 mph which will prove a formidable test of driving skill.

In anticipation of a larger than usual percentage of retirements, the race has been reduced from 99 to 80 laps, but even so there are those who are predicting that less than half the runners will cross the finishing line. All in all, it could prove the most difficult of all this year's grands prix in which to win world championship points, a thought which must cause Lauda to feel grateful that he will start with 18 points in the bag, 12 more than his closest rivals, Hunt, Mass and Depailler.

Golf

Wind out of the west hits women for six

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

The first semi-final line-up in the Sunningdale open foursomes this morning will be Stungo and Hunt against Giles and Larratt. In the second semi-final line-up Mrs Bayman and Critchley will be in receipt of five strokes against Hughesdon and Clark, of Sunningdale.

A blustering breeze bringing overnight rain which improved the state of the greens did not help the cause of the six women left in the tournament. Coming from the west, it stiffened the first nine holes. It proved too much for the all-woman combination of Miss Saunders and Miss Lee-Smith, who, it is safe to say, had gone farther than any such combination before. Even so, their opponents, the Turners, had to finish at their best to reach the last eight.

Brian, of the greens' staff at Wentworth, was the cement in the partnership, striking his tee-shots to three and five feet at the 13th and 15th and winning those holes back in twos. He also holed from nine feet on the 16th to square the match. But his uncle, Archie, played his part by finding the fairways and holing out. In a sense they were in the centre of the picture all day, and Archie can certainly claim to have made a comeback.

I understand it is 20 years since he last played in this event. He works on night shift on the railways, and had no more than a couple of hours sleep before playing yesterday. Inevitably, this took its toll towards the end of a day when the wind increased in force. Against Critchley and Mrs Bayman, the artisans started well enough, and reached the turn three up. In this their task was made easier by Mrs Bayman finding the water at the fifth, which caused them to lose one of their five stroke holes.

But the mixed pair kept going; indeed Critchley's iron play seemed to increase in fury and accuracy; he hit a marvellous iron out of trouble to the throat of the 10th green, and, winning the next two holes, they were back to all square. Three putts at the 13th put them behind again, but they took their chance with a stroke at the 14th.

After a half in three at the 15th, where Critchley hit another fine iron, the end came quickly, and a little sadly, for the artisans. They were losing the 16th all the way and missed a short putt at the 17th. The younger Turner gave an excellent performance all day, but one woman had reached the semi-final stage in spite of the obstacles put in their way by the weather.

Stungo and Hunt, reaching the semi-final round for the second year running, had things much their own way against Squirrell and Whitehead. As Whitehead said, once your game begins to go in a wind, and after four consecutive rounds, it is hard to do anything about it. The winners played their steady game, Stungo looking an altogether stronger player than some years ago. Today they meet Larratt and Giles, an amateur who is beginning to make a reputation for himself. It was, perhaps, his greater experience, compared with his opposite number from Wentworth, that influenced the result.

Perhaps the best match of the afternoon was the victory of the Sunningdale pair, Hughesdon and Clark. Between them these two have now been in seven Sunningdale semi-final rounds. Clark, already settled into his new post at the club, played with plenty of authority on the course he has known for so long, and was well supported, especially in the driving, by his partner.

Miss Greenhalgh and Caygill made a strong partnership, particularly through the green, where Miss Greenhalgh held her own well. The difference between the two couples came mostly close to the hole. In receipt of five strokes, the mixed pair missed three chances from five feet in the first four holes and, instead of getting an early grip on the match, they were two down. Caygill missed another two chances, but they got a net three to take the lead at the 17th, and it needed a four by the Sunningdale pair at the 18th to take the match on. At the 21st Hughesdon, with the ball in a bit of a gully, hit a winner over the bunker to three feet, which his partner holed.

Sunningdale results yesterday

Fifth round

R. Whitehead and H. Squirrel (Moor Park) +1, beat A. Stickley (Ealing) and Miss C. Redford (Canterbury) 5, 4 and 2; B. Hunt (Foxhills) and L. M. Stungo (Sunningdale) +1, beat W. E. McCrea and B. Murray (Walton Heath) +1, 3 and 2; T. R. Lennon and B. Gallacher (Wentworth) +1, beat J. S. Jukes (Sidmouth) and K. H. Horton (Tyrrells Wood) +2, 5 and 4; T. Giles (Northants County) and A. S. Larratt (Cold Ashby), +1, beat K. A. MacDonald and Mrs A. Uzielli (Berkshire) 5, 7 and 6; C. Clark and M. Hughesdon (Sunningdale), +1, beat J. Hamilton and J. Watts (E Herts), +1, 3 and 2; A. Caygill (La Baule) and Miss J. A. Greenhalgh (Pleasington), 5, beat D. Lewis (Whitewebbs) and J. M. Willis (Enfield), +1, at the 19th; B. Turner and T. Turner (Sunningdale Artisans) scr, beat J. Lee Smith (Gosforth) and Miss V. Saunders (Tyrrells Wood), 11, 1 hole; B. Critchley (Sunningdale) and Mrs L. Bayman (Berkshire), 6, beat D. Carroll (Cirencester) and C. S. Mitchell (Bristol) scr, 2 and 1.

Sixth round

Giles and Larratt beat Lennon and Gallacher, 3 and 2; Hunt and Stungo beat Whitehead and Squirrel, 6 and 4; Critchley and Mrs Bayman beat B. Turner and T. Turner, 2 and 1; Clark and Hughesdon beat Caygill and Miss Greenhalgh, 21st.

Doncaster programme

[Television (IBA): 2.30, 3.05, 3.35 races.]

2.30 CROWN PLUS TWO APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£978 : 1m)

102	133440-	Fighting Brave (V. Remill), G. Harwood, 4-9-0 .. A. Cressy	19
103	00303-	Dashing Hussar (G. Martin), P. Haslam, 4-9-0 P. Codd	7 13
104	100100-	Lush Gold (D) (H. Westbrook), M. H. Easterby, 4-8-13 T. O'Ryan	25
105	11113-	Wheatclose (D) (G. Newsome), M. W. Easterby, 5-8-13 T. Walsh	3 8
106	132240-	Town Farm (D) (Mrs A. Tootill), P. Taylor, 4-8-12 R. Cheese	1

Taunton results

2.15 (2.15) WEST MONKTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £605: 2m 3f)

Sixer, b g, by Grit—Queen's Ranger (G. Gay), 12-10-12 P. Warner (10-1) 1
Fredo Mai A. Cramsie (100-30 fav) 2
Portland III Mr M. Reeves (16-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 4-1 Killagurteen (p), 6-1 Sport Of Kings (4th), 13-2 Miss Medina, 8-1 Hot Oftan (p), 15-1 Billymagne, 33-1 Holford Glen (ur) ...

... Bunker, 11-1 Cantile, 20-1 Seton's Gift, 25-1 Medway Melody, Merrin Lord, 33-1 Penny Miss (p), Tumble Rock (bd), Tacle, Hesperus, Love Set. 16 ran.

TOTE: Win, £1.00; places, 42p, 27p, 18p, 22p. M. Pipe, at Tiverton. 5l, 6l.

3.45 (3.47) SOMERSET HUNTERS STEEPLECHASE (£272: 3m 1f)

Master Vesuvius, b g, by Vulgan—Miss Italy (H. Geddes), 12-11-7 Mr R. Stuart-Hunt (3-1) 1
Forest Rock, Mr P. Wates (4-6 fav) 2
Green Art VI Mr T. Harris (14-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 12-1 Lucky Edgar (p), 14-1 Hickory Hill (4th), 33-1 Jim Hardy (f), Beau Reynard (u), Hector's House (p), Regency Buck (p). 9 ran.

TOTE: Win, 56p; places, 14p, 12p, 21p, dual forecast: 15p. H. Geddes at Bath. 30l, 4l.

4.15 (4.18) PITMINSTER NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: £272: 2m)

Boom Boom, ch g, by Privy Seal—Terry Pat (O. Russell), 10-10 W. Smith (7-4 fav) 1
Bargain Day .. A. Branford (7-1) 2
Marchant D. Cartwright (100-30) 3

ALSO RAN: 3-1 Royal Fanfare (4th), 11-1 Hazy Melody, 14-1 Marmalade, 33-1 Golden Rock, Bitty Boy (p), Fulus (o), French Harmony, Kabuto, Ones Mine, Spring Lady, Trubshaw. 14 ran.

TOTE: Win, 20p; places, 13p, 30p, 10p. F. Walwyn at Lambourn. 6l, 5l.

4.45 (4.46) PITMINSTER NOVICES' HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o: £272: 2m)

Singing Saint, b g, by Welsh Saint ...

5.45 (5.46) PITMINSTER HURDLE (Div. III: Part II: 4-y-o novices: £272: 2m)

Bally Prince, b g, by Continuation—Empress of Scotland (O. Toomey), 10-10 R. Crank (5-1) 1
Potomac's Daughter W. Smith (4-5 fav) 2
Grand Rose John Williams (16-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 8-1 Keep Pace (co), Skys the Limit, 9-1 Blue Maid (4th), 25-1 Lord Toby (ro), 33-1 Aberdonna, Flames My Queen (p), Force Nine (f), Uther Pendragon (o). 11 ran.

TOTE: Win, 49p; places, 14p, 10p, 30p. L. Kennard, at Taunton. 6l, 7l.

TOTE DOUBLE: Hit Parade, Boom Boom, £17.95. TREBLE: Great Surprise, Master Vesuvius, Singing Saint, £94.05.

3.5 BATTHYANY HANDICAP (3-y-o: £3,217: 5f)

3.35 DONCASTER SPRING HANDICAP (£1,270: 1¼m 127yd)

4.5 OPENING STAKES (2-y-o: £495: 5f)

305	422211-	High Drama (D. Smith), Denys Smith, 4-9-0 .... A. Barclay	9
306	214102-	Extrovert (S. Thompson), P. Haslam, 4-8-13 .... J. Lynch	2
307		Tall Lad (J. Snowdon), Denys Smith, 7-8-8 .. L. Charnock 8	1
308	24C230-	Quiet (G) (I. Mackinney), G. Smyth, 6-8-8 ...... G. Lewis	6
309	210012-	*Maris Piper (S. Hill), R. Hollinshead, 4-8-5 ...... —	11
310	211300-	Escarole (C. Freud), G. Balding, 5-8-4 .... W. Carson	4
312	02012-	Nice Romance (K. Godson), S. Ingham, 4-8-3 .... B. Jago	8
314	0-	Uncle Cyril (J. Lee), S. Matthews, 5-8-0 .... —	7
316	000000-	Montreal Boy (H. Chapman), J. Calvert, 6-7-12 E. Johnson	12

100-30 Cadogan Lane, 9-2 Grinling Gibbons, 11-2 Quiet, 7-1 Pot Luck, 8-1 Escarole, 9-1 Extrovert, 12-1 High Drama, 14-1 Nice Romance, 16-1 Tall Lad, High Season, 20-1 others.

4.35 FRENCH GATE STAKES (£1,232: 1¼m)

5.05 MARCH STAKES (3-y-o: £1,333: 1m)

602		Hallah (T. Grandin), A. Jarvis, 9-4 .... J. Seagrave	10
604	300000-	Barnaby Beck (Mrs M. Berry), R. Bastiman, 9-0 D. Nicholls 5	1
606	01-	Enemy (A. Upton), B. Swift, 9-0 .... G. Lewis	12
607	220400-	Micjac (J. Harrison), J. Calvert, 9-0 ...... S. Freeman 7	3
608	212300-	Pirate Dream (Mrs J. Hale), D. Keith, 9-0 .... J. Lynch	7
610	0002b-	What A Find (J. Hardy), Hardy, 9-0 .... G. Moss	13
611	01-	Warren Rose (Mrs P. Loose), W. Marshall, 8-11 R. Marshall	8
612	0-	Captain Flash (R. Moller), H. Wragg, 8-9 .... G. Gosney 7	9
615	000-	Hope Anchor (W. Jones), P. Robinson, 8-9 .... P. Young 5	2
616	000-	On Sight (Lady Petersham), H. Williams, 8-9 .. J. Mercer	5
617	08230-	Silver Steel (C. Elliot), C. Brittain, 8-9 .... W. Carson	11
621		Look At Me (Mrs M. Claridge), W. Stephenson, 8-6 D. Ryan	d
622		Silver Swallow (W. Newton), M. W. Easterby, 8-6 J. Skilling	4

9-4 Pirate Dream, 3-1 Silver Steel, 5-1 Enemy, 8-1 Warren Rose, 12-1 Hallah, 14-1 What A Find, Hope Anchor, On Sight, 16-1 Silver Swallow, 20-1 others.
* Doubtful runner.

Doncaster selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.30 Wheatclose (if absent Le Dauphin). 3.5 Get Ready. 3.35 High Season. 4.5 Right Vale. 4.35 Touch of Gold. 5.5 Pirate Dream.
5.5 Pirate Dream.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Le Dauphin. 3.5 Self Satisfied. 3.35 High Season. 4.5 Right Vale. 4.35 Priestlaw. 5.5 Silver Steel.

Devon and Exeter programme

2.15 KENTON HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o novices: £306: 2m 40yd)

2.45 FOXTOR STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £655: 2m 3f)

3.15 WOODBURY HURDLE (Handicap: £596: 3m 1f)

24	p-00	Starkers (H. Payne), Payne, 8-10-0 .... L. Flower	7
2d	000-0	Jackson (J. Criddle), Criddle, 8-10-0 .... Mr J. Price	

11-4 Breakwater, 4-1 Proceed, 11-2 Franwin, 8-1 Dark Sky, 12-1 Polly Wall, Leopardus, Rolyat, 14-1 Zimmer, Tessie's Boy, Nerolace, 20-1 others.

3.45 DAW VALE HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m 40yd)

2	330040	Terryash (L. Stevens), O. Barons, 5-11-5 ...... P. Leach	7
4	434001	Golden Litchnn (CD) (W. H. Jones), O. H. Jones, 6-11-4 G. Gwilliam	7
6	014030	Royal Request (Mrs I. Turk), G. Turk, 4-11-2 ...... J. Sothern	
7	000-002	Slipknot (R. Norton), R. Keenor, 4-11-0 .... John Williams	
9	000103	Beaty (J. Tierney), Tierney, 6-10-12 .... R. F. Davies	

4.15 TOM CUNDY STEEPLECHASE (Hunters: £510: 3m 1f)

4.45 KENTON HURDLE (Div 2: 4-y-o novices: £306: 2m 40yd)

19	0	Hanley Swan (F. Hawker), Mrs Pitman, 10-10 .... A. Branford	
22	a	Laeson (R. Hawker), Hawker, 10-10 .... N. Flanagan	
23	000000	Lady of Darien (Brian Gubby Car and Truck Rental Ltd), J. Pullen, 10-10 R. Forsyth	7
30	00	River Dance (R. Turnell), Turnell, 10-10 .... A. Turnell	
33	0	Sugar Lad (Mrs G. Davison), A. Davison, 10-10 .. J. McNaught	
34	73004	Talking Doll (F. Brown), A. Jarvis, 10-10 .... P. Blacker	
35	000	Tewkesbury Park (G. Thomas), J. Spearing, 10-10 John Williams	
36	003	Tromso (Mrs L. Bowry), M. Francis, 10-10 ...... P. Kelleway	
37	00000	Welcome Sara (Mrs T. Woodbridge), D. Ancil, 10-10 S. G. Knight	5

Evens Christmas Candle, 6-1 Boulevardier, 8-1 Tromso, 12-1 Talking Doll, Hamalono, 14-1 River Dance, 16-1 Tewkesbury Park, Freezing Point, Hanley Swan, 25-1 others.

Devon and Exeter selections

By Our Racing Correspondent
2.15 Brig. 2.45 Joint Venture. 3.15 Breakwater. 3.45 Loch King. 4.15 Dusky May. 4.45 Christmas Candle.

Worcester results

... 8-11-1 ...... R. Dickin (33-1) 1
Braway Scot J. Francome (4-6, fav) 2
Adam's Brake J. Suthern (20-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 9-4 Forty Score (p), 7-1 County Clare (f), 20-1 Fanny Green (4th), 50-1 Blane Hill, Rhum. 8 ran.

TOTE: Win, 2.10; places, 40p, 14p, 25p; dual forecast, £2.30. D. Nicholson, at Stow-on-the-Wold. Sh hd, 8l. Wayardo did not run.

TOTE DOUBLE: Air General, Croftamie, £4.45. TREBLE: Sou Candy, Ernie Wiltshire, Well Done, £124.05.

Doncaster

Tutor's Best .. M. C. Gifford (7-2) 2
High Mark .. K. McCauley (11-2) 3

ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Rookery Hook (4th), 6-1 Ballyseason, 33-1 Noon. 6 ran.

TOTE: Win, 42p; places, 21p, 23p; dual forecast, 60p. S. Palmer, at Bottesford. Sh hd, 1½l.

Tatters Inn did not run.

3.5 (3.d) LAITH GATES HURDLE (Handicap: £795: 2m 150yds)

Whistling Penny, ch g, by Whistling Wind—Pal An Oir (Miss J. Thompson), 8-10-7 D. Greaves (6-1) 1
Whispering Grace O. Atkins (6-1) 2
Ronson Avenue H. J. Evans (5-1) 3

D. Goulding (6-4 fav) 1
Birdlover ...... R. Lamb (5-1) 2
Poor Boy .... B. R. Davies (4-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 3-1 Hopeful Curtis (p), 33-1 Hill End. 6 ran.

TOTE: Win, 17p; forecast, 44p. G. W. Richards, at Greystoke. 5l, nk.

4.35 (4.37) GREY FRIARS HURDLE (£837: 2½m)

Zip Fastener, gr h, by Silver Shark—Safety Fast (R. McAlpine), 5-12-3 Mr S. Morshead (9-2) 1
Mark Henry .... T. Stack (8-1) 2
Romany Star .... C. Shaw (4-1) 3

ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Wotdyknow (p), 8-1 Doo'Col Park (p), 13-1 ...

French racing

PRIX ON LONGCHAMPS (2-y-o fillies: £7,500: 1m)

Olympic Games

Davies says big problems may be humidity

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

Lynn Davies, Britain's Olympic long jump champion of 1964, flew into London yesterday from Canada firmly convinced that the 1976 Olympics will be held in Montreal and that the main stadium will be ready to stage the track and field athletics events.

Davies is here, taking a week off from his work as technical director of the Canadian Athletics Association, to talk to potential members of the British Olympic athletics team at a training weekend at Crystal Palace national sports centre which is organized by the British Amateur Athletic Board and sponsored by Kraft.

Because he wanted to bring us the latest Olympic news, and reassure our athletes, he stopped off in Montreal in his journey from his home in Ottawa, to put some hard questions to the Canadian Olympic organizers. He says: "They convinced me that the stadium will be finished by the end of May. A meeting will be organized there on June 26 and, with the Games starting on July 17, I've been insisting to them that they are wrong in aiming for a low-key meeting just in case there are mistakes. With the Olympic stadium you can't shut the door and say 'You can't come in'. The meeting must be open to athletes from other countries."

Davies agrees that there has been no real tradition for amateur sport in Canada in the past. "Sports-wise the country is dollar orientated like all North America. Recently we even had Pee Wee hockey players, under nine years of age, being offered transistor radios and a Caribbean holiday to stay with their team.

"In some ways it was premature for Canada to stage the Olympics. But now track and field is benefiting because of much more coverage on television because it's Olympic year and Canada are the hosts. Our men's team is not strong because of the attraction of professional sport and because American colleges take some of our best men away and they come back, after a hard collegiate season ending in June, too tired to want to compete for Canada. But in spite of the tremendous travelling involved in Canada—there's a transportation cost of $55,000 for the national championships—progress is being made. Canada finished third in the Pan-Am Games whereas our previous highest was seventh."

Davies says that he is glad that the original grandiose stadium planned by Mayor Drapeau, which he calls "that monstrosity", will not be built because of cost. He points out that all major stadiums in Canada are built with baseball or football in mind and he has disturbing news of the stadium for the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton whose mayor expressed his complete disinterest in track and field. The planned track there may have tight bends and long and triple jumps will be sited inside the track apart from the danger such a contracted area may pose for anyone close to hammer or javelin throwers.

Equestrianism

Princess Anne's mount is lame

Princess Anne's mount, Flame Gun, is lame and has been withdrawn from the Badminton Horse Trials, which will be held from April 8 to 11. The Princess, who had entered two horses, will compete on Arthur of Troy. She is earmarked for a place in Great Britain's team for the Olympic Games with Goodwill, which is not competing at Badminton because it has proved his capabilities.

Lorna Sutherland's slim hopes of a place in Montreal have been dashed by the withdrawal of Greco, her only mount, from Badminton. In 1970 she became the only woman to ride three horses in the event.

Deborah Johnsey, the former junior European show jumping champion, has been added to the Olympics sports list, following her successes in Dortmund last week. She won the Grand Prix on the American-bred Croupier, and was leading lady rider with Croupier and Speculator. She will be competing with other members of the Dortmund team for the Lancia Grand Prix at Northwood on Saturday.

SPORT

Boxing

Conteh takes blame for breaking his hand again

By Neil Allen
Boxing Correspondent

John Conteh's defence of the world light-heavyweight boxing title against Alvaro Lopez, of the United States, which was to have been staged in Kampala on April 1, has been postponed again. Conteh has broken his right hand in training and the injury was confirmed by an X-ray examination yesterday.

The new date for the contest, which had already been postponed once because Lopez had a cold, has provisionally been set for the second week in June. Conteh will fly to Uganda today to discuss the matter with President Amin. "I feel it is the best thing to do", Conteh said yesterday. "I will explain the situation personally to the President and arrange the new date."

I shall be surprised if the match does take place as early as June. Conteh's injury, a cracked first metacarpal, is in the same place as the fracture which he suffered in a non-title contest in the United States last August. At that time Conteh needed an operation to pin the bone together. This time support on the hand is considered sufficient. Even so, the world champion has been told the injury will probably take three months to heal completely.

Yesterday Conteh explained: "The injury was sheer bad luck. I had a sore nail on the middle finger of my right hand. I was wearing new gloves and unconsciously I was not closing my hand correctly. I'd been told after last August that the hand would heal stronger than ever and I was sure it had. It was my own fault for not taking the trouble to clip my fingernail before I started training."

John Conteh . . . "I will explain the situation personally to the President and arrange the new date."

Conteh intends to carry on training. "I shall do everything I have been doing except the punching. It won't be completely boring as I shall have something to look forward to. I shall stay in great shape. I'm not worried about having a permanent weakness in my right hand. I'm sure my hand will be stronger than ever."

Brave words. But this new postponement comes at the worst time for a young man who desperately wants to cash in on the world title. He has fallen out with leading promoters in this country and he may no longer be welcome in the United States by the promoter, Don King, since the Kampala contest is being masterminded by Don Majeski, a former assistant to Mr King, who, at only 26, has decided to forge out on his own.

Conteh has not boxed for money since August, 1975 and it may be more than a year before he does so again. He may now be wondering, deep down, whether his independent streak is proving too costly. Is it too much to hope that he will, after all, return to British rings, whether or not the Kampala venture ever gets off the ground?

Ali in £3m tangle with Japanese wrestler

New York, March 25.—"I've always wanted to meet a rassler," Muhammad Ali said here today. And that is exactly what the heavyweight boxing champion will do in Japan on June 26—for a guarantee of $6.1m (over £3m). He is due to box a Japanese, Antonio Inoki, the National Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion.

"This will be serious," Ali shouted at a news conference, formally announcing that the match will be seen on closed-circuit television. "This will be a fight to the death. No boxing. This will be serious."

"I certainly hope Muhammad Ali will not duck at the last moment", Inoki said through an interpreter. Ali replied: "If I ain't afraid of walkin' down a back alley in Harlem, I ain't afraid of you."

"When your fist connects with my chin", Inoki said, "take care your fist is not damaged". Ali then looked at Inoki's prominent jaw and promptly termed him "the pelican".

The bout will be held at noon in Tokyo on a Saturday so that it can be seen live on closed-circuit television in the United States at 10 pm eastern standard time Friday, June 25.

Ali and Inoki said the bout would be winner-take-all, with the winner being recognized as the world martial arts champion. Of course, no title is at stake. When asked if he did not think his newest venture might be considered ridiculous, Ali replied: "This is not ridiculous for me. This is the kind of thing I'm involved in. They (the public) want to know what will happen if Muhammad gets his arms twisted, if he gets his body slammed."

The rules have not been settled yet, but some tentative rules were announced: The fight will end after 15 rounds, with the winner of a round getting five points and the loser four or less, or when a contestant is rendered unconscious by a knockout or wrestling hold; not able to get up before a count of 10 after being knocked down by a punch, or when a contestant's shoulders are pinned to the mat for a count of three.

Rugby Union

Pullin's way back to top is via senior league

Pullin, England's most capped player, has joined the campaign for more competitive rugby. "It is the only way we are going to get back to the top", he argues. "I would like to see a league for senior clubs which would be completed by Christmas. This would be followed by the trials and the internationals, with the county championship rounding off the season."

Pullin is one of nine Bristol men travelling to Richmond tomorrow for Gloucester's county final match against Middlesex. With so many regulars missing, Bristol's captain, Tyler, has asked to play in his club's match against Rosslyn Park, although he had been advised to rest an abdominal muscle injury.

Bristol are looking for new opponents for April 10. Leicester have had to pull out to meet Harlequins in a qualifying tie for next season's John Player Cup.

...aven has been dropped by ...h in favour of Pudney for their ...e at Richmond. Another Bath change sees the return of the ...eran, Hall, for Lye in the back row.

Weston-super-Mare, who are to meet Bath for the final of the Somerset Cup on April 7, make ... change for their match against ...ord. With Penny playing for the Royal Navy against the RAF at Twickenham, Reeves, the ...ston captain, moves to centre ...n full back.

Northampton are without four players for tomorrow's home game with Waterloo. Ian Wright, ...ham, Clarke and Phillips are injured. George will play at outside half, partnering Page, who ... an England replacement against France last Saturday. ...itt, on vacation from St Luke's College, Exeter, is recalled to the three-quarter line, with Saving as centre partner. Geoffrey ...ight, recovered from flu, returns to the pack and Taylor will play on the open side in place of Phillips.

Surfeit of possession brings comfort to St Edward's

By Peter Marson

The final round of the open competition, the preparatory schools festival and the plate competition rings down the curtain this afternoon on another highly successful national schools seven-a-side rugby tournament. Rosslyn Park, whose efficiency in organizing so complex an operation is quite astonishing, had been blessed with fine weather this year and that has been to the benefit of the organizers, the players, the spectators and the many hundreds of people involved.

Yesterday's programme, as on the two previous days, was completed without a hitch. The open tournament ploughed through the second and third rounds to leave 16 schools with an eye on the competition's trophy, the John Sabel Challenge Cup to be presented by Willie John McBride. The preparatory schools worked their way through three rounds on KCS Old Boys ground, and the unsuccessful schools in the open rejoined battle in two rounds of the plate competition. At the same time the junior schools festival neared its final stages and at the conclusion of an excellent final, Dulwich carried off the Kings College Challenge Cup by beating John Fisher by six points to four.

In the open competition, the holders, St Edward's, Liverpool, began cautiously against their first opponents, St Joseph's Academy. St Joseph's were known to have won the Kent tournament and St Edward's were taking no chances. By monopolizing possession of the ball St Edward's won comfortably in the end by 20 points to nil. Their next opponents, King Edward VI, Nuneaton, also posed a problem and their rugged approach temporarily dulled the polish of St Edward's game. Yet St Edward's added to their lead of six points to four at half-time with a second try and they begin again this morning with a fourth round match against Sevenoaks. So far, Sevenoaks have done well with convincing victories against St Joseph's, Stoke, St Olave's and Millfield.

Last season's runners up, Methodist College, Belfast, began promisingly but foundered in their second game against Plymouth. In this, an immensely hard, exhausting game, Plymouth triumphed by 12 points to nil.

Plymouth and Hereford Cathedral School became the only survivors among five schools who had also taken part in the festival on Tuesday and Wednesday. A young side, Hereford have done well and yesterday scored 36 points to six against William Ellis and Aylesbury. Hereford are in the top half of the draw, which fairly bristles with talent with Chislehurst and Sidcup, Rydal, Cwmtawe, St Edward's, Sevenoaks, Roundhay and Reigate soon to be locked in combat.

Not that life would seem to be any easier in the lower half where Llandovery, Plymouth, Cowley and Royal Belfast will jostle for a position in the semi-final round probably with Normanton. There are bound to be surprises, there always are.

Schoolboys' seven-a-side results

Second round

Emanuel 4, Aylesbury 10; William Ellis 6, Hereford Cathedral 28; Chislehurst and Sidcup 6, Mount St Mary's 4; Coleraine 15, Gunnersbury 0; Rydal 32, Ampleforth 0; Cayton 20, De La Salle 0; Westcliff 0, Windsor 6; Birkenhead 6, Metropolitan Police Cadets 0; Normanton 22, St Dunstan's 0; King's Macclesfield wo, Broxbourne (scratched); Hampton 16, Donessler 6; King Edward VI, Southampton 6, Llandovery 36; King William's 18, London Oratory 0; Beverley 0, Cwmtawe 28; King Edward VI, Nuneaton 16, Merchant Taylors, Crosby 0; St Joseph's Academy 0, St Edward's, Liverpool 20.

Millfield 8, Gravesend 6; Sevenoaks 18, St Olave's 13; Methodist College, Belfast 20, RGS Guildford 10; Hipperholme 6, Plymouth 24; Roundhay 20, Warwick 6; West Park 4, Stowe 6; Manchester 4, Reigate 24; Latymer Upper 6, Hymers College 18; St Joseph's, Ipswich 8, Woolverstone Hall 26; Blackpool 16, St Michael's 6; Bassaleg 12, St Benedict's 14; Maidstone 6, St Brendan's 0; Cowley 32, Verulam 3; St Mary's, Sidcup 4, Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 12; Royal Belfast 10, Truro 6; Stonyhurst 14, Oakham 6.

Third round

Aylesbury 0, Hereford Cathedral 6; Chislehurst and Sidcup 13, Coleraine 0; Rydal 28, Cayton 0; King William's 4, Cwmtawe 19; King Edward VI Nuneaton 4, St Edward's, Liverpool 10; Millfield 6, Sevenoaks 24; Roundhay 16, Stowe 6; Reigate 10, Hymers College 4; Windsor 4, Birkenhead 16; Normanton 13, King's, Macclesfield 0; Hampton 6, Llandovery 14; Belfast Methodist College 0, Plymouth 12; Woolverstone Hall 8, Blackpool 6; St Benedict's 12, Maidstone 6; Cowley 8, Queen Elizabeth, Barnet 4; Royal Belfast 9, Stonyhurst 4.

Squash rackets

Faulks walks over in an event amateur must win

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

To respect principles while ...lging preferences is to savo... most felicitous of marriag... tween the ideal and the pra... able. That is what has ha... ned to Harp Lager, pioneers ... sponsorship of squash racket... ven seasons ago they inaugurate... e largest and longest tourname... the world. Their primary ai... is to stimulate the British am... ur game. But as a matter of principle they opened the do... everyone. Inevitably, profes... onals gradually began to dom... te this nation-wide event.

This season, though, the con... uding rounds will coincide wit... pen tournaments in Karachi... hese will demand the attentio... the leading professionals—in... uding last year's winner of th... arp event, Bryan Patterson. S... e Harp tournament must be wo... an amateur. Patterson's ...sence grants a walk-over to ...igel Faulks. The other matches in the quarter-final round, to be played at Brandon Hall, Coventry, on April 6, will be Pat Kirton v John Palmer, Dick Carter v Alan Purnell, and Stuart Courtney v Michael Taylor. The semi-final and final rounds will be played at Wembley on April 12 and 13.

Purnell captained Edgbaston Priory to a 5—0 win over Edinburgh Sports in the final of the inter-club tournament for the Canadian Club trophy at Wimbledon last evening. As a mixed event, with three men and two women in each team, this is the most attractive and comprehensive test of club talent. The only other inter-club competitions organized on a national basis are the Banbury Trophy knock-out tournaments, and the Ascot League, both of which provide separate events for men and women.

RESULTS: P. Verow beat D. Toft, 8—10, 9—5, 9—5, 9—7; A. Purnell beat J. Hone, 9—7, 9—2, 9—7; J. McCollum beat A. McIntosh, 9—1, 9—2, 9—1; Miss S. Cogswell beat Miss E. Mitchell, 9—0, 9—0, 9—0; Miss A. Smith beat Miss A. Dowar, 9—2, 9—1, 9—1.

Motor cycling

Read returns to track five days after crash

Phil Read, the British motor-cycling champion, returns to Italy today only five days after the crash which put him in hospital. He was given cardiac massage and treatment for concussion and abrasions after being brought down by one rider and struck by the machine of another at the Modena circuit.

Read returned to England on Monday and was examined by his own doctor. After a brief rest he returns to the Imola circuit, near Bologna, where he plans to race on Sunday against his arch rival, Giacomo Agostini, of Italy.

"Physically I am feeling pretty good", Read says, "but in the interest of my own safety and that of other competitors I will do some practice laps on Saturday to ensure my judgment has not been impaired by the concussion. Ago had a cakewalk after my crash and I have to make amends for that."

Football

England are beginning to see the light

Don Revie, the England manager, is beginning to "see a little bit of daylight, at least through the crack of the door." That was his verdict after watching the under-23 team win in Manchester on Tuesday and the seniors beat Wales in the centenary international at Wrexham on Wednesday.

"I was tremendously pleased with both wins," he said, "but not just because they were wins. It was the way the players reacted to each other despite the fact that they had not been together that long. It appears that my mind and the players' minds are now getting closer together."

Mr Revie will now get down to planning his parties for the British championship, the American tour and the World Cup qualifying clash with Finland during May and June.

Goals from Kennedy and the second-half substitute, Taylor—both newcomers—sent England on the road to victory—Wales's goal came from Curtis in the last minute—but it was West Ham United's Brooking who was the strong man of the team. His biting tackles so dominated the midfield that he demoralized the Welsh.

"I've got nine caps but, surrounded by so many newcomers, I felt for the first time that I was one of the seniors," Brooking said, "so I had to do a lot of things I've never done before." England's tackling was more precise and determined than has been seen for a long time. Every player was in control of his task and Mr Revie's idea to substitute Taylor for Channon and Clement for Cherry in the second half did not upset the balance.

Keegan said: "I was skipper for the night, but I only really went to the middle for the spin of the coin. After that everyone was a skipper in his own right and they were all having a go."

Wales did nothing more than give the result respectability, for they were outclassed for large periods of the game and even their goal was disputed. Clemence, in the English goal, said: "I'm going to suggest to Don Revie that we introduce a new tactic into our plans. The idea is that one player sits on the goalkeeper as another scores. That's what happened to me when they scored." The player he claims sat on him is his club colleague, Jones, who admitted: "It was a foul, but the referee allowed it."

For Michael Smith, the Wales manager, who had lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday, the match was not a terrible disappointment. "My players did all that I asked and I can't ask for any more. We were without some of our top players, but I thought those who came in did a good job. It was a game for learning before we go to Yugoslavia for the Nations Cup quarter-finals next month. I now know several patterns that will not work."

Malcolm Smith could make his first first division appearance of the season for Middlesbrough against Manchester United at Old Trafford tomorrow. The 22-year-old striker rejoined Middlesbrough yesterday after two months on loan to Blackpool.

Cruyff quits in 1978

Amsterdam, March 25.—Johan Cruyff says he will quit the game in two years time and will not play in the 1978 World Cup in Argentina. "I want to stop while I'm still at the top and the World Cup is just a little too late for me", he declared.

George is out for at least three weeks

Dave Mackay, the Derby County manager, yesterday definitely ruled his striker, Charlie George, out of next week's FA Cup semi-final against Manchester United at Hillsborough.

George, who has scored 24 goals for the club this season, dislocated a shoulder during Wednesday night's 1—1 draw against Stoke City and is expected to be out of action for at least three weeks.

George was taken to the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary after being involved in a collision with Stoke's Denis Smith midway through the first half. He had to be put under sedation before the shoulder could be put back in place.

Mr Mackay, who spoke to George yesterday, said: "There is no chance of George being fit for the semi-final and it looks as though he could be out for at least three weeks. He is at home with the shoulder firmly strapped up. But it is very sore.

"We will just have to wait and see how he progresses before we know when he might be back. But I only hope the three week estimation is wrong."

Mackay added: "I did not even see the incident but apparently he fell awkwardly on the shoulder. He was in agony. The club doctor tried to put the shoulder back but in the end there was no alternative but to take him to hospital."

If the medical estimates are correct George will not be back until Easter when Derby face three games in four days against Leicester, Aston Villa and Everton.

The home draw with Stoke means that Derby used up their game in hand on the leaders Queens Park Rangers and are still a point behind.

Liverpool, who are two points behind Rangers with a game in hand, have rearranged their home game with Leicester for Tuesday, April 6. This gives them a run of three successive home league matches against Birmingham City, Everton and then Leicester City.

The Leicester game was originally fixed for Good Friday and then brought forward to Tuesday, April 13. But this latter date will now be utilized for the home leg of the UEFA Cup semi-final with Barcelona.

Another player injured in the match at Derby was Alan Hudson, the Stoke City and England midfield player. Stoke confirmed yesterday that Hudson will be out for the rest of the season.

Hudson had his right leg put in plaster yesterday after X-rays confirmed that he had broken a bone.

Hudson limped off the pitch 20 minutes into the game after being involved in two tackles with Derby's Rioch. He had X-rays taken of the leg at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary yesterday and the limb has been put in plaster for four weeks.

Mee wishes to stay on in a new capacity

By Norman de Mesquita

The retirement of a football manager is invariably accompanied by meaningless tributes from the club, which fool nobody. Arsenal, of course, do things differently and, at Highbury yesterday, Bertie Mee sat behind a great, baize-covered table in the directors' lounge to face the press.

Ten years as manager has been quite a strain; perhaps more of a strain at Arsenal than any other club. With youngsters of the calibre of Brady, Ross, Powling and O'Leary now established in the side, Mr Mee feels the time is right for him to go in the interest of the club, the players and himself.

He described his feelings as "a wee bit emotional" and we saw the emotional side of Bertie Mee when he was asked about memorable off-the-field moments. Just how close he was to the players became clear as he recalled a coach trip in Cyprus and the notorious brawl in Italy.

On the field, pride of place among his memories goes to the winning of the Fairs Cup at Highbury together with that famous win at Tottenham to clinch the League title in the double year and leading the team out at Wembley. He regrets the departure of Frank McLintock, but stressed that it was done to help the player. Otherwise, given the same set of circumstances, he would have made the same decisions.

It is Bertie Mee's dearest wish to stay at Highbury, but that is up to the board and his successor as manager, who will inherit a healthy bank balance and a promising team. If he inherits Bertie Mee as well, he will have, as an adviser, a man who has retained dignity throughout a distinguished managerial career and who can safely be described as a worthy custodian of the finest Arsenal tradition.

Peter Storey, the former England defender, failed to appear for a meeting with the Arsenal manager, Bertie Mee, yesterday and has been banned for a further 14 days by the club.

Clement misses two of the last six games

Queen's Park Rangers, the first division leaders, will be without Dave Clement for two of their last six games. The 28-year-old full back, who won his first England cap in the victory over Wales on Wednesday night was suspended for two matches by an FA disciplinary commission in London yesterday.

He will miss Saturday's home game with Manchester City and the trip to Newcastle on April 3.

Clement, who had totalled 22 disciplinary points after six bookings, said afterwards: "It was a very fair hearing and the commission took into account my previous good record. But it is unfortunate being ruled out at this crucial time of the season."

Duncan Forbes, the Norwich City centre half, has been suspended for three matches after reaching 20 disciplinary points. His ban takes effect from next Wednesday. Peter Houseman, of Oxford United, was fined £50 and received a one match suspension starting on Monday after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute. This brings Houseman's accumulative suspension to three matches.

Yesterday's results

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Staines 3, Tooting and Mitcham 0. Subsidiary Cup: Second round: Chesham 3, Woking 0; Barking 0, Carshalton 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Cheney, Oxford 4, Oxford 1; West London Schools 5, Merton Schools 0 (Pears Trophy final).

RUGBY UNION: Royal Engineers Cup: Final: 42 Survey Regt 21, 22 Engineer Regt 7. Schools match: Rutlish 10, South Delta Secondary School (BC) 4.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Fourth division

Lincoln C v Watford
Southport v Scunthorpe Utd
Stockport Co v Reading
Tranmere R v Cambridge Utd

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: First division (South): Canterbury v Ramsgate.

RUGBY UNION: Tredegar v Camborne (7.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Castleford v Wigan.

Women's hockey

England lose ground and finish third

By Joyce Whitehead

After being unbeaten at the end of the first day's play in the British Universities group hockey tournament for women at York University, England lost ground yesterday and finished third. It was Scotland who came out on top. This is their eleventh win in 13 tournaments. Northern Ireland, last year's winners, romped home to a 7—0 win over England B yesterday morning, but on Wednesday they lost 0—1 to Scotland and so, took second place.

Scotland, playing better hockey, took the lead against the promising England side yesterday morning, but Sarah Cobban (London) just managed to equalize in the second half. Her shot went into the net leaving two Scots prone in front of goal.

Perhaps the two best goals of the whole tournament were those scored by Margaret Gleghorn, of Northern Ireland, in their match against England yesterday. She took the ball into the circle, cleverly drew the goalkeeper out of position and, showing her international skill, placed the ball in the net. The other was shot by Jean Robertson, of Scotland, in their match against Wales. It was from a corner hand-stopped by Linda Scotland. With a skilful push stroke she drove the ball powerfully into the back of the net.

There was some fine hockey played during the two days but also a vast difference in standards. Scotland and Ireland with England A close on their heels, were in a class apart. England B and Wales struggled manfully, but obviously lacked experience except for Belinda Hinsley the Welsh goalkeeper who was exceptionally good.

Immediately after the tournament 28 players were selected for trials today, starting at 9.45. A side will then be selected to play England under-23 at York University tomorrow (2.0).

RESULTS: Northern Ireland 7, England B 0; England A 1, Scotland 1; England B 0, Wales 0; N. Ireland 2, England A 0; Scotland 5, Wales 0. FINAL PLACINGS: 1, Scotland 7 pts; 2, Northern Ireland 6; 3, England A 5; equal 4, England B, Wales 1.

Skiing

A year for history in women's Alpine

By John Hennessy

The Alpine skiing season has ended with the final accolade, the men's World Cup, bestowed on a young Swede, Ingemar Stenmark. His record, however, pales into obscurity beside that of Rosi Mittermaier, of West Germany, who established a new high-water mark for women skiers.

Miss Mittermaier's haul included the Olympic downhill championship, Olympic slalom championship, Olympic giant slalom silver medal, world championship (compounded of the three Olympic races) and the World Cup. Only Kathy Kreiner's unexpected win for Canada in the giant slalom at Innsbruck denied Germany the grand slam of all five titles, so far achieved by only Jean-Claude Killy, of France.

Miss Mittermaier thus surpassed the achievement of Nancy Greene (Canada), who won three titles in 1968, Killy's year, but only one individual event, the giant slalom. She was second in the slalom, but nowhere in the downhill, confounded by the niceties of waxing. Had her trainer chosen wisely then she could well have set the pattern now followed by Miss Mittermaier, but that must remain a Canadian lament.

It is now reasonable to argue that Miss Mittermaier is the outstanding woman skier in history. Many have recently given that distinction to Annemarie Pröll, later Mrs Moser (Austria), but she revealed unexpected fallibility when the nerves were drawn taut. All three Olympic gold medals eluded her at Sapporo in 1972 and only the downhill was hers in the St Moritz world championships in 1974. In earlier days Marielle Goitschel (France) was regarded by some as historically supreme, but neither she nor Miss Greene nor Mrs Moser outshone her contemporaries as completely as Miss Mittermaier has done this year.

Stenmark's success is an isolated achievement, though satisfying enough to a man who was deprived of the World Cup last year in the rather suspicious circumstances of the final parallel slalom. Gamesmanship was employed on behalf of Gustavo Thoeni (Italy) then, as Honoré Bonnet, mastermind of France in their triumphant years, has recently reminded us to the official bulletin of the International Skiing Federation.

The five men's titles were shared this year among five different skiers, which is not such a healthy state of affairs as it might seem at first glance. The World Cup is supposed to be a test of versatility over a period, the consistency of the Football League, rather than the instant success of the FA Cup, but Stenmark finished at the top without taking part in a single downhill. The outstanding downhill racer, Franz Klammer (Austria), daring winner of the Olympic straight race, was similarly unable to make any sort of a dent on the slalom or giant slalom.

Emulating Stenmark, Thoeni won the overall world championship at Innsbruck faute de mieux. He won only one individual medal, a silver in the slalom, and was as far back as 26th in the downhill. Compared with Miss Mittermaier he was merely an also-ran. The Olympic title winners were Heini Hemmi (Switzerland) in the giant slalom and Piero Gros (Italy) in the slalom, again two men whose versatility falls short of any hope of success in the downhill.

Stenmark has said that he hopes soon to make an advance in the downhill. It may be so, but the same was said about Thoeni a couple of years ago, but he got little further than making token appearances in order to establish a position in all three events and so qualify for the world championship. The tendency is for downhill racers to be born rather than made, their position established in the first flush of youth at a time when a regard for life and limb seems to belong to the old and the old-fashioned.

Miss Mittermaier, on the scene when the World Cup was born in 1967 and still going strong, has declared her options open, so we may have the pleasure of her company next year. Her love of ski racing remains undiminished by the passing of the years but she has been approached by so many promoters with bulging cheque books, and an eye for exploiting her universal appeal, that I cannot see how she can resist. An Hotel Rosi on a Bavarian mountain seems too tempting a proposition.

World Cup final placings

Men

1. I. Stenmark (Sweden), 249 pts
2. P. Gros (Italy), 209
3. G. Thoeni (Italy), 190
4. F. Klammer (Austria), 181
5. W. Tresch (Switz), 98
   H. Hinterseer (Austria), 98
7. H. Plenk (Italy), 77
8. B. Russi (Switz), 72
9. P. Roux (Switz), 69
10. E. Pargätzi (Switz), 68

Women

1. R. Mittermaier (WG), 281 pts
2. L.-M. Morerod (Switz), 214
3. B. Zurbriggen (Switz), 170
4. M. Kaserer (Austria), 168
5. D. Debernard (France), 165
6. B. Totschnig (Austria), 155
7. F. Serrat (France), 125
8. C. Nelson (US), 122
9. H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 83
10. L. Epple (WG), 73

Cricket

Richards hits second hundred in series

Port of Spain, Trinidad, March 25.—West Indies, having recovered from early shocks, had scored 237 for seven at the close of the second day's play in the second Test match against India at the Queen's Park Oval here today.

The West Indian recovery was due to a partnership of 122 for the fifth wicket between Richards and Murray, who came together when the West Indies were struggling at 52 for four. Richards who made 130, hit his second century of the series. He scored 142 in his only innings in the first Test at Bridgetown.

He survived a stumping chance on 83 when the wicketkeeper Kirmani failed to take the bails off after Richards had jumped down the wicket and missed a ball from Venkataraghavan.

By lunchtime the West Indies were struggling at 72 for four wickets after a sensational morning's play. They lost a wicket in each of the first two overs of the match, which started a day late because of yesterday's complete washout. They were always under pressure.

The left-handed opener Fredericks fell to the second ball he faced. He tried to hit Madan Lal off the back foot and played the ball into his middle stump.

Off the fourth ball of the next over from Mohinder Amarnath, Rowe offered a loose forward defensive shot and was bowled off stump for four.

Alvin Kallicharran, another left-hander, and the right-handed Richards were constantly troubled early in their innings by some testing bowling, especially from Madan Lal who made the ball move both ways off the pitch. They appeared to be steadying the innings when India again regained the upper hand by taking the wickets of Kallicharran and the captain Clive Lloyd, in quick succession.

Kallicharran, after batting just over an hour, swept a ball from the left-arm spin bowler Bedi, the Indian captain, and was well caught by Madan Lal moving in from deep backward square leg for 17. Three overs later, with the score at 52, Lloyd was beaten by a slower ball from the leg-spin bowler Chandrasekhar and bowled for seven. Murray and Richards played out the remaining minutes of the morning.

Richards, who began playing positively after lunch achieved his 50 which was made in 149 minutes after steering Chandrasekhar for his eighth four.

Murray, on the other hand, had close calls on two occasions. He barely beat a direct throw at his wicket when attempting a risky run off Chandrasekhar. Two balls later he had to kick the ball away from his stumps after it had spun from the bottom of his bat.

By teatime the pitch had lost the sweat which accounted for the disasters of the morning but the ball continued to come through at varying heights. This did not seem to affect Richard's confidence. He brought the partnership between him and Murray to 100 by straight driving Bedi for four. Rain caused the teams to take an early tea by which time West Indies had scored 172 for four, with Richards on 99.

Test scorecard

WEST INDIES: First Innings

R. C. Fredericks, b Madan Lal	0
L. G. Rowe, b M. Amarnath	4
I. V. A. Richards, b Bedi	130
A. I. Kallicharran, c Madan Lal, b Bedi	17
*C. H. Lloyd, b Chandrasekhar	7
†D. L. Murray, c Kirmani, b Bedi	46
B. D. Julien, run out	23
D. A. J. Holford, not out	3
M. A. Holding, not out	1
Extras	1
Total (7 wkts)	237

A. M. E. Roberts, R. R. Jumadeen to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—0, 2—4, 3—39, 4—52, 5—174, 6—210, 7—236.

BOWLING (to date): Madan Lal, 9—5—16—1; M. Amarnath, 7—1—17—1; Chandrasekhar, 18—1—61—1; Bedi, 32—4—82—3; Venkataraghavan, 28—5—61—0.

INDIA: *B. S. Bedi, S. M. Gavaskar, D. Vengsarkar, G. R. Viswanath, M. Amarnath, S. Amarnath, S. Madan Lal, B. P. Patel, S. M. H. Kirmani, S. Venkataraghavan, B. S. Chandrasekhar.—Reuter.

Badminton

Mrs Gilks moves slowly and nervously forward

By Norman Fox

Two British women, Gillian Gilks and Margaret Lockwood, reached the semi-final round of the all-England badminton championships at the Empire Pool, Wembley, yesterday, bringing the prospect of a repeat of the 1973 final, when Mrs Gilks lost to Mrs Lockwood, then Miss Beck. The last surviving Briton in the men's singles, Paul Whetnall, lost to the impeccable Rudy Hartono, champion from 1968 to 1974.

So in today's women's semi-finals, Mrs Gilks will play Lene Köpen of Denmark, who is quietly taking victims without drawing too much early unwanted attention, and Mrs Lockwood meets the No 1 seed, Taty Sumirah, of Indonesia. The men's semi-finals will be: Hartono v Delfs (Denmark) and Johnsson (Sweden) against Liem Swie King, the Indonesian world invitation champion, who beat the reigning all-England champion, Pri, of Denmark, 18—7, 15—2.

If Whetnall, the English No 1, had the least enviable task in the fourth round, Mrs Gilks made hers the most painstaking when she nervously and slowly overcame Joke van Beusekom, of The Netherlands, 7—11, 11—0, 11—8. She admitted being nervous, which was nothing unusual, but compounded her difficulties by overplaying shots and finding the slight turbulence in the air—also nothing unusual at Wembley—disturbing to her judgment.

She was soon 8—1 down in her first game and lost 11—7, but recovered well enough to win the second 11—0. Yet that was a misleading omen because in the third Miss van Beusekom played some dainty touch shots at the net and was 7—3 ahead before Mrs Gilks gradually added confidence to her naturally fluent movement to win 11—8.

Mrs Lockwood was also taken to three games, by Annette Börjesson, of Sweden. She seemed thoroughly furious at her own form and expressed her annoyance by playing far better against a Canadian, Wendy Clarkson, in a fourth round match which she won in 12 minutes.

Hartono captivated everyone with his pleasing style and especially impressed Whetnall with his incredible mobility and subtlety. Whetnall admitted that he simply ran out of answers and pace, but still persuaded the audience that he could offer a few worthwhile questions in tactical positioning. He was superbly outplayed and had to work desperately hard to gain his total of 10 points. Now that Pri has been eliminated, Hartono seems on a different level from the remaining semi-finalists. The strong Swede, Johnsson, has great power to reach which could temporarily trouble Hartono if they meet, as the seedings predict, in the final.

All-England badminton results

Men's singles

Third round: R. Hartono (Indonesia) beat D. R. Hunt, 15—5, 15—4; P. E. Whetnall beat B. Wackfalt (Sweden), 15—11, 15—8; F. Delfs (Denmark) beat D. Talbot, 15—12, 17—16; T. Kihlstrom (Sweden) beat M. Frost Hansen (Denmark), 15—6, 15—10; S. Pri (Denmark) beat F. Harbon (Denmark), 15—4, 15—2; Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat M. J. Wilks, 15—2, 15—0; A. Nurman (Indonesia) beat W. Bochow (West Germany), 15—8, 15—2; S. Johnsson (Sweden) beat J. Helledie (Denmark), 15—8, 15—6.

Fourth round: Hartono beat Whetnall, 15—5, 15—5; Delfs beat Kihlstrom, 15—9, 5—15, 15—6; Liem beat Swie King beat Pri, 18—17, 15—2; Johnsson beat Nurman, 15—5, 15—5.

Womens singles

Third round: Mrs M. Lockwood beat Miss A. Borjesson (Sweden), 11—8, 10—12, 11—6; Miss W. Clarkson (Canada) beat Mrs E. B. Nielsen, 11—6, 11—5; Mrs J. Youngberg (Canada) beat Miss T. Widiastuty (Indonesia), 11—4, 11—8; Miss L. Kopen (Denmark) beat Mrs E. Stuart (Sweden), 11—3, 11—5.

Fourth round: Miss T. Sumirah (Indonesia) beat Miss J. A. Webster, 12—10, 2—11, 11—0; Mrs Lockwood beat Miss Clarkson, 11—1, 11—1; Miss Kopen beat Mrs Youngberg, 11—1, 11—5; Mrs M. A. Gilks beat Miss J. van Beusekom (Netherlands), 7—11, 11—0, 11—8.

For the record

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Buffalo Sabres 7, New York Rangers 3; New York Islanders 1, Los Angeles Kings 1; Atlanta Flames 7, Chicago Black Hawks 2; Toronto Maple Leafs 2, Montreal Canadiens 1; Detroit Red Wings 7, Washington Capitals 3; Pittsburgh Penguins 5, Boston Bruins 5; Minnesota North Stars 4, Kansas City Scouts 1.

WORLD ASSOCIATION: Calgary Cowboys 7, New England Whalers 6; Houston Aeros 5, Cleveland Cavaliers 2; Edmonton Oilers 3, Winnipeg Jets 2; Cincinnati Stingers 5, Phoenix Roadrunners 3.

Golf

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Open, first round: 66—B. Arda (Philippines); Mya Aye (Burma); 67—C. Barenaba (US), H. Underwood (US), M. Barnan (US), M. Krantz (US); 68—M. Bembridge (GB), Y. Koyama (Japan), T. Takasasu (Japan).

LUSAKA: Zambian Open (British unless stated): 64: N. Job; 69: P. Cowan; 70: D. Jagger, M. Foster, W. Longmuir; 71: C. Mason.

Billiards

MIDDLESBROUGH: English amateur championship: Semi-final round: R. Close (Hartlepool) beat J. Sinclair (Middlesbrough), 2165—1740.

Tennis

BOSTON: K. Reid (US) beat M. Redondo (US), 6—2, 6—1; M. Jausovec (Yugoslavia) beat M. Guerrand (US), 6—0, 3—6, 6—1; V. Wade (GB) beat B. Stove (Netherlands), 4—6, 6—2, 7—5; E. Cawley (Australia) beat C. Meyer (US), 6—2, 6—1; D. Fromholtz (Australia) beat G. Stevens (SA), 6—4, 6—4; N. Chmyreva (USSR) beat S. Barker (GB), 7—5, 6—3.

PALM SPRINGS: I. Nastase beat H. Rahim 6—1, 3—6, 6—3; A. Ashe beat S. Stewart 6—4, 6—4; C. Richey beat H. Solomon, 6—4, 6—3; C. Drysdale beat R. Case, 6—4, 6—1; J. Newcombe beat K. Warwick, 5—7, 6—3, 6—2; R. Tanner beat O. Parun, 6—4, 6—0; R. Fairlie beat J. Fillol, 3—6, 7—5, 7—5; R. Laver beat E. van Dillen, 7—4, 6—3; M. Estep beat J. McManus, 6—0, 6—1; S. Smith beat C. Pasarell, 6—3, 7—6, 6—2; B. Borg beat I. Tiriac, 6—0, 6—1; J. Alexander beat S. Ball, 7—5, 7—6; R. Ramirez beat S. Krulevitz, 4—6, 6—4, 6—0; R. Lutz beat W. Brown, 6—3, 7—5.

Boxing

SYDNEY: Commonwealth bantamweight championship: Paul Ferreri (Australia) beat Brian Roberts (Australia), pts.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions off Piste	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	20	165	Good	Powder	Snow	3
New snow, bad visibility						
Champery	20	62	Good	Spring	Cloud	2
Powder snow on hard base						
Isola 2000	140	180	Good	Powder	Fine	2
Excellent skiing everywhere						
Les Menuires	105	175	Fair	Varied	Cloud	3
Good skiing on upper slopes						
Niederau	13	42	Fair	Heavy	Snow	0
Good snowfall, bad visibility						
St Anton	8	260	Fair	Varied	Snow	3
Föhn with light snowfall						
Val d'Isère	35	145	Good	Varied	Fine	0
Still some good powder skiing						
Verbier	10	70	Fair	Varied	Sleet	8
Some ice and bare patches						

In the above snow reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
GERMANY					
Garmisch	0	25	Poor	Cloud	0
Kleinwalsertal	35	120	Good	—	-1
Mittenwald	0	25	Poor	—	-1
Oberammergau	0	40	Poor	—	-1
Oberstaufen	10	40	Poor	—	0
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	15	60	Hard	Cloud	-1
Arosa	90	100	Good	Cloud	-5
Braunwald	20	80	Spring	Cloud	-3
Chateau d'Oex	20	70	Good	Cloud	0
Davos	40	110	Hard	Cloud	-4
Flims	—	50	Fair	Cloud	1
Grindelwald	10	70	Good	Cloud	-5
Gstaad	—	50	Hard	Cloud	0
Kandersteg	20	80	Hard	Fair	1
Klosters	30	130	Hard	Cloud	-2
Lenk	10	40	Hard	Cloud	-1
Lenzerheide	20	50	Hard	Cloud	-3
Les Diablerets	10	40	Good	Cloud	0
Leysin	10	80	Good	Cloud	0
Morgins	40	80	Spring	Fair	-3
Mürren	50	80	Good	Cloud	-3
Pontresina	25	65	Hard	Cloud	-7
Saanenmöser	30	70	Good	Cloud	-4
Saas-Fee	40	100	Good	Cloud	-2
Villars	10	60	Hard	Cloud	-1
Wildhaus	20	50	Hard	Cloud	0
Zermatt	50	70	Good	Cloud	-2

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: Most main runs complete, wet snow on firm base. Lower slopes, few runs complete, others broken. Vertical runs, 1,400ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,000ft. Glenshee: Most main runs complete, new snow drifting. Lower slopes, ample nursery areas. Vertical runs, 1,000ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,000ft. Glencoe: Main runs complete, new snow on hard base. Lower slopes, ample nursery areas, new snow on firm base. Vertical runs, 1,400ft. Access roads, clear. Snow level, 2,000ft.

Corporatism in Britain: why protecting industry need not mean more bureaucracy

The recent exchanges among *The Times*, Mr Michael Foot and others show how difficult it is to maintain a distinction between corporatism as a type of economic system and notions of totalitarianism. Yet it is important to do so because the word can be used in a precise way to describe fundamental changes in our political economy. There is currently a serious academic debate about whether the British economy is in the course of transformation from some form of mixed, liberal, managerial capitalism towards corporatism that is of direct, practical relevance. This debate is engaging the attention of sociologists and lawyers, especially the latter, who are increasingly visiting this country to explore corporatism at first hand.

We see corporatism as a comprehensive economic system in which the state directs and controls predominantly privately-owned business according to four principles: unity, order, nationalism and success. The crux of corporatism concerns the role the state plays in the economy, the *nature* of state intervention, even more than its extent. Recent governments have gradually been assuming *a directive* role by establishing national goals, controlling the distribution of rewards, coordinating the supply of some major goods and services (eg, energy, oil, equipment, machine tools) and allocating resources (eg, land towards community development and capital towards 30 priority manufacturing activities). The planning agreements system, if ever fully implemented, would give the state some leverage over most of the other variables a private owner or manager may manipulate in the conduct of his business. Corporatist *state control*, therefore, means control over the internal decision-making of privately owned businesses.

The first operating principle of corporatism is unity, the idea that economic goals are best achieved through cooperative effort rather than competitive processes. Whether it be through "joint consultation", "co-determination", a "social contract" or "tripartism", working together as "one nation" is now seen by Conservative and Labour alike as the way out of our collective travail. The active, successful pursuit of individual or group interests is now labelled "sectionalism" (when it involves workers) or "unacceptable capitalism" (when businessmen). In practical terms, those in industry as well as politicians see little merit in price competition or competing sources of supply. They increasingly favour a system of price control and state-organized cartels with, perhaps, some industrial reorganization.

The second corporatist principle is order. Market economies are seen as inherently liable to unintended fluctuations and instrumental disruptions. In order to guard against latent anarchy, submission of the particular interest to the general will is a corporatist principle, collaboration at work a duty. The corporatist value is discipline, not liberty: the corporatist vice is licence, not compulsion.

Corporatism is nationalist in a dual sense. First, it is a collectivist system, not an individualistic one. National economic performance has moral primacy over personal affluence or mobility. "Individualism" is a label for stigmatizing recalcitrance, not eulogizing freedom. Second, it is economically nationalistic towards the rest of the world, involving the aggressive protection and furtherance of national economic interests in all contexts.

The final corporatist principle is *success*, that is, effectiveness in the attainment of national goals. This also has two aspects. First, corporatism is an ends-oriented system, rather than a means-oriented one. It seeks results, not efficiency: it puts greater value on achieving targets than on the maintenance of legal rights or processes. This rejection of the rule of law has been considered separately by one of us in an article in *The British Journal of Law and Society* (current issue).

Additionally, corporatism is a mobilization system. It operates through the purposive organization of collective effort rather than trusting to spontaneous private responses to perceived opportunities. Concretely, this means a corporatist regime would attempt to establish control over the investment process (an allocative function) and assume some responsibility for economic coordination (a planning function).

Historically, times of economic crisis are often times of increasing state intervention. But the trend towards corporatism was started in the early 1960s by the Conservatives and will, we think, be continued by whatever party is in power because it is an attempt to cope with deeper structural changes in the economy. It is emphatically not a short-term aberration of a Mr Benn or a Mr Foot.

The increase in industrial concentration is a far more potent cause of corporatism. In 20 of our 22 major industries, an average of only three firms control half or more of the market (Monopolies Commission report). Such a level of concentration is technically oligopoly and has two consequences: the state cannot let such giant firms fail, because they are essential in meeting the nation's needs, and it cannot let them succeed, in the traditional profit-maximizing sense, because their market power would hold the nation to ransom. Hence, the state is now the regulator of major firms' profitability through price and margin controls.

The declining profitability of British manufacturing industry is a second long-term cause of corporatism, which goes back at least 25 years. Last month's NEDO report documented how spectacularly it has fallen in the past decade. Hence, companies have generated no real retained earnings in any year since 1967, save one. The consequence is to increase their vulnerability to Government controls over their liquidity. The liquidity crisis of 1974 demonstrated that we must rethink the traditional notion of price control as possibly the most powerful and specific instrument for the control of the private sector. The Government is now hinting that it will bargain price relaxations for individual firms against all manner of "agreements". That, in essence, is the corporatist financial strategy: state direction of private firms through modulation of their revenues.

Other structural changes contribute to corporatism. The increasing cost and potency of certain forms of high technology not only forces the state into the role of protecting and controlling the environment. It also involves the state in providing the capital and guaranteeing the markets for investments that would otherwise be too large and risky for private interests. Finally the increasingly adverse shifts in world trade and incursions of multinationals have also involved the Government in the active protection of British industry.

State intervention in the economy is usually taken to mean more bureaucracy. However, we think that corporatism in Britain will operate more subtly: it will not need to be bureaucratic. When half our national output is produced by only 100 firms (Prais) the state can potentially control aggregate national performance by controlling only a limited number of companies. *This has the side effect* of leaving the great mass of smaller firms unregulated.

For dealing with the few major firms (and the major unions), a massive administrative apparatus is superfluous. Control may be exercised through regular, informal negotiations. The outcomes of this bargaining will not always be what the state wants. Countervailing private power is substantial. Thus, corporatism is a bargaining system, not a bureaucratic system. And once the deals have been struck the private economic groups will be expected to carry them through themselves. That is, enforcement will be delegated, not supervised, from Whitehall.

More importantly, any success-oriented regime must retain the capacity to make prompt and flexible decisions in response to changing problems. Formalized bureacratic rules introduce rigidity: they constrain the state as well as the subject. A corporatist state will retain adaptability by simply not codifying its procedures, by making its powers discretionary (as with the Industry Act financing, development grants), and by using an enabling Act model of the law (what Mr Edward Short called "*framework Bills*" in a recent Commons debate), that is, statutes which describe broad purposes not specific instruments. Such a style is not bureaucratic. On the contrary, it represents fundamental evasion of the rule of law. The visiting lawyers certainly find what they come to discover.

We are not suggesting here that Britain is already corporatist, or that state control will ever be absolute. What we are saying is that, despite protestations by politicians that they are building socialism or reforming capitalism, there is an internal logic to the economic policies of British governments over the past 15 years which is essentially corporatist. We see our task as the seeking out and explication of that logic. Clearly, one may approve or disapprove of the type of economic system we have described here. Personally, we reject it. But we would argue strongly that less pejorative and emotional discussion and more calm and objective analysis would help us to understand more clearly the society that we are all seemingly obliged to live in for the next decade or more.

R. E. Pahl and J. T. Winkler

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Bernard Levin

Mozart it is, for all seasons

Reviewing a performance of Mahler's Second Symphony under Solti the other day, William Mann said that it had been so marvellously played and sung that "one might have wondered why Beethoven's Choral Symphony is so famous". Mr Mann might have wondered, but the great Muller, who is beginning to worry me, actually *did* wonder, for he and I went to hear the Ninth itself, also conducted by Solti, only a week or so earlier (on which occasion, incidentally, I was considerably surprised to find Verdi in the London Philharmonic orchestra, playing the viola and looking just like all the portraits of him—his unmistakable whiskers neatly trimmed, the famous hair shaped exactly as he used to wear it when he spent his time composing—though all the books agree that he died in 1901); Muller said afterwards that it had left him unmoved, and when, amazed, I began to expatiate upon the classical grandeur of the reading we had just heard, he remarked that it was not the performance that had failed to stir him, but the work—whereat, as you may imagine, I was put strongly in mind of Lord Foppington's words: "I am struck dumb by his insolence, and cannot positively tell whether I shall ever again speak or not." Nor was this to be the last shock of the evening, for he also declared that the Ninth never says very much to him nowadays, and added for good measure that the same was true of the Fifth. The late Bruckner symphonies, he insisted (quite carried away by now), and the Sibelius Seventh, were the works that really spoke to his heart, and of the Beethoven canon only the *Eroica* and the *Pastoral* remained.

This was alarming enough, but when—presumably relying on our lifelong friendship to save him from being thrown bodily out of the taxi, if not over Waterloo Bridge—he mentioned in passing that he wouldn't mind if he never again heard the C Major Symphony of Schubert, I began to fear that if he bit me I would get hydrophobia. He didn't bite me, but he did mention the name of the work which he said now moved him more than the Choral Symphony; his choice was so disgraceful that it says much for the strength of the lifelong friendship aforementioned that I spare his blushes by not *telling on him*.

The trouble is, of course, that although Muller has undoubtedly gone off his head, there is a tiny, irreducible core of method in his madness. Although the odd-numbered Beethoven symphonies still stir me profoundly every time I hear them, their hold does, undeniably, weaken with the years. And it is, after all, the years that provide the clue, for the symphonies have not changed: we have.

What, then, happens to a man's musical taste as he grows older? I mean, of course, to those parts of his musical taste that are central to his life; of course we go through, say, a Tchaikovsky phase in adolescence, but that is calf-love. The question is: can you get tired of the real thing? And the answer is: yes, you can, just as a marriage can come apart even after decades during which the partners have seemed indissolubly united.

Now clearly the process has gone further in Muller's case than mine. But what has happened to me is that, although the symphonic works have not fallen off one end of the bough, they have at least moved up to make room for the chamber music climbing on at the other.

When I was young, the Beethoven quartets, and indeed chamber music generally, meant little to me; now they mean more and more. Once, I would go to half a dozen concertos for every instrumental recital; now it is the other way round. Understatement in music now appeals to me more, and glory less. And above all—and on this Muller and I are agreed—Mozart goes more and more piercingly to the heart as time goes on.

Perhaps it is a matter of taste in a sense other than the obvious one. Muller argued that the major Beethoven symphonies after the *Eroica* are *self-conscious*, and that the Ninth in particular is the deliberate decision of a man whom life had defeated, determined that from the one area in which he was unconquerable he would produce something to right the balance. That goes too far for me to go with it; and in any case I am quite unable to see the slightest trace of self-consciousness in the *Eroica*, and I am sure that until I die I will continue to experience that unsurpassable climax of excitement—one of the most vivid moments that art or life can provide—when the drum begins to bang gently as the third movement dies away, and Beethoven gathers himself for that heroic leap from the twilight of C minor into the high noon of C major. But there is undoubtedly something in the argument, and it is presumably that something that Benjamin Britten had in mind, when he said "the rot started with Beethoven".

You are now—are you not?—waiting for something. I am reasonably certain I can confirm that you are not going to be disappointed. What, you want to know, about Wagner? Can I envisage a time when I will no longer feel drawn, like a man in a dream, to the sorcerer's cell, there to be subjected to his dreadful will? Clearly, I answer that I can envisage such a thing happening, though I do not, to be sure, see any signs of its happening yet. But as soon as I started to think about the possibility in a purely hypothetical way, I came immediately upon evidence which suggested that it was not utterly impossible. Running over the works in my mind, I realized with a start that there was only one of them which I am quite certain I could never do without, that provides nourishment absolutely essential to the maintenance of life in the soul. *It is The Mastersingers*, and it is unique in the Wagner canon in precisely the ways which would be suggested by the feelings I have described: it is less self-conscious, less ruthless in its assault on the citadels of the psyche, less overt. (Muller, oddly, said that Wagner's hold on him had not slackened in the least, *even while Beethoven's had*; it may be significant—though if it is I cannot think why—that Muller came to Wagner much later than I did.)

Now *The Mastersingers* is, you might say, Wagner's Mozart. And what is certain is that as time goes by Mozart's hold on us grows; his sublimity increases, his faultless judgment becomes more and more persuasive, his moral truth provides a surer refuge for the troubled heart, his grace (in both senses of the word) pierces more deeply. All life, I suspect, consists of a progress towards Mozart; which is only an agnostic's way of saying: towards Heaven. As the answers begin to outnumber the questions, it is to Mozart that secular men turn, as confident that they will not turn in vain as is the devout believer who calls upon his God. For us, in the end: *whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. . . . And now abideth Beethoven, Wagner, Mozart, these three; but the greatest of these is Mozart.*

Whiskers galore as the Army prepares to tackle Everest

Pheriche, Nepal

In this cold, dramatically beautiful valley, the British and Nepalese Army Expedition is now gathered for an attempt on Everest. Three groups of climbers have completed the walk through the Himalayan foothills into the Khumbu region. They are now acclimatizing for the next level of the climb beneath the towering circle of peaks near Ama Dablam and Taweche.

Twenty-eight officers and men from Britain arrived at camp here leaner and hairier than when they left Katmandu 200 tortuous miles ago. Chins which once had a Queen's regulation smoothness now sport young rabbinical bushes or whiskier growths. Hair curls over shirt collars in a way which would bring howls of rage in Aldershot. It is all permissible, Lt-Col Tony Streather, the expedition's leader declares. He now has a fine pepper and salt growth. Hair is excellent protection against high altitude, sun rays and bitter Himalayan winds.

Ironically, the walk to Everest from Lamsangu across the deep valleys which drain the Himalayas involve climbing more than the entire height of the well-climbed peak. Early each day the caravan of climbers and porters set out along the dusty tracks before the sun became too oppressive. They move in slow stages through the neatly terraced fields of east Nepal and across the Lamjura Pass at 11,400ft into the wilder Sherpa country.

The forest thickened with rhododendrons, magnolia and wild orchids. Himalayan golden eagles circle the track and bird watchers in the party spotted such bright rarities as the Fire-breasted flower pecker, the olivaceous tree walker and the black-headed shrike. Captain Tim King, a bomb disposal officer from Surbiton, turning stones along the way, collected 10 nests of red ants for an ecological research centre in England.

On this section the porters, working for about 75p a day, bore the weight of the expedition in 60lb loads. The sahibs, lightly laden, enjoyed the walk to Namche Bazaar, capital of Sherpa country. On past the Everest View hotel, an attempt at five-star elegance which recently lost much of its roof, and eventually to the first view of Everest. The mountain lay beneath a thick cap of cloud beyond the south face of Nuptse, a place of painful memories for some expedition members.

Last year four climbers of the Army Mountaineering Association died there in preparation for this Everest attempt. Later the weather cleared, and the familiar dark triangle appeared flying a wild plume of mist and spindrift high above its neighbours.

Everyone is now at Pheriche, 14,000ft high, waiting for a change of blood. In medical terms, acclimatization means waiting for a build-up of red corpuscles so the system can make better use of the thin air. In practical terms it means waiting until the sensation passes of being struck on the skull with an axe.

In preparation for their attempt the British and Nepalese climbers requested permission to climb eight peaks in the Pheriche area but the Nepalese Government have declined. The official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of mountains, now known affectionately to the expedition as Icy Mountains, declared that all effort should be spent on climbing Everest.

The eight peaks listed by the expedition were not among the peaks approved for climbing by the Nepalese Government. It is not only cloud which may obscure Himalayan summits. The expedition plans to follow the original route up the mountain climbed in 1953 by Hilary and Tensing.

So far the weather has been remarkably good and free of snow. The valley leading up to the Khumbu glacier which now should be thickly covered is a corridor of bare boulders.

This makes Colonel Streather optimistic that a route through the ice fall can be established towards the end of next week by which time the entire expedition should be acclimatized and able to push the route towards the Lhotse face. A lot depends on whether there is a sting to winter's tail which brings a late snowfall. The next step will be for two small parties to move into the base camp supported by 150 loads of food and equipment so the assault on the ice fall can begin.

Already in the base camp area there is an expedition of young environmentalists from America who are undertaking a "clean up Everest campaign". Three large holes have been dug in the permafrost and many tons of rusting metal, tins and relics of former expeditions are being buried. Everest base is most insanitary, their leader complained.

Nepal is a country strewn with whisps of prayer flags. Sadly the flags around the foot of Everest are a mark of convenience, not devotion.

Ronald Faux

Japan: The big test facing the last true democracy in Asia

With the demise of political rights in India, Japan alone stands out as the only genuine democracy and light in the darkness of repression, poverty and intolerance that has enveloped the rest of Asia.

In maintaining the only free society in a vast area stretching from the American continent *westwards towards* the *original* font of democracy in Athens, Japan can also proudly boast that it is the one country in Asia which has provided its people with economic justice without abrogating their basic rights.

One can easily point to many defects in this amazing country which rose up from the ashes of a disastrous war to merge as the world's third economic power within three decades. There is pollution, over-industrialization, the lack of a social welfare system or foreign aid programme commensurate with Japan's economic power. But in comparison with the rest of Asia, Japan's attributes far outweigh its shortcomings.

For whatever their imperfections might be, 110,000,000 Japanese are not plagued by political oppression, poverty, a muzzled press, a controlled judiciary or sabre rattling militarists. Nor are they bedevilled by a population explosion, a high rate of violent crimes or religious intolerance.

The opposition and the press can criticize the government without fear of reprisals, corruption is exposed publicly in parliament and the process of law is observed.

Apart from a number of radical terrorists who have been charged with crimes of violence, Japan is one of the few countries with no political prisoners.

Although the ruling liberal democratic party has maintained a monolithic grip over power for nearly three decades, it often tries to reach a consensus with the opposition, instead of bulldozing important issues through the Diet.

No other nation in Asia today that can match Japan's achievement is maintaining a genuine democracy while providing its people with economic justice.

As an Asian giant India has failed on both scores. The record of Taiwan, China, North and South Korea, Burma, the Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and a number of other small Asian nations speaks for itself. The fact is startling but apart from Hongkong there is now no genuine free press of any consequence between Tokyo and Athens.

Japan can also boast of a well ordered society in many other respects. First and foremost, while other less affluent Asian nations have ignored, or failed to cope with, their exploding population problems, Japan has quietly managed to maintain its population growth rate at a low and constant level of just over 1 per cent.

In addition the current birth rate of 1.86 per cent is expected to drop by 0.4 per cent by the turn of the century.

This will mean that Japan's current population of 110,000,000 will rise to an acceptable level of 124,000,000 by 1986 and 132,000,000 by 1996. This is no mean achievement. Comparisons with the problems of population explosion in other parts of Asia are frightening. For example, in Bangladesh, with a land area one third of the size of Japan, the current population of 80,000,000 is expected to shoot up to 234,000,000 by the turn of the century to touch off an era of mass starvation and misery.

Fears that Japan might revive its prewar military aspirations seem groundless. The constitution itself prohibits the country's self defence force from operating on foreign territory and no government can ignore the widespread feeling that the country was ruined after it was dragged into an ill-advised war. Unlike India, Japan, which can afford to build nuclear weapons at virtually a moment's notice, has signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Unlike some of the more xenophobic nations in Asia, the Japanese have readily absorbed alien technology, culture and a parliamentary system without losing their national identity. And in doing so they seem to have achieved the best of both worlds.

Although the oil crisis brought the miraculous era of high economic growth to a close in Japan two years ago, new trends indicate that the country is pulling out of the recession and entering a period of moderate growth.

The government has managed to combat inflation which stood as high as 30 per cent in March, 1975. Japan's consumer price index rose by 0.8 per cent in January, indicating that the government might hold inflation below a one digit target this year. As a result the government has steadily eased its tight money policy to stimulate the economy with the hope that Japan will maintain an overall growth rate of 4 to 6 per cent this year.

In general terms, the volume of Japan's overseas trade has trebled during the past five years and it now stands at a level of $103 billion. And it is expected to treble again during the next five years.

Not that Japan is out of the woods yet. Unemployment rose to the highest level in 16 years in January, leaving some 1.2 million Japanese without jobs.

Many Japanese are convinced that future dangers do not lie on the economic front but in the political arena. Essentially they believe that democracy and political stability in Japan will meet its real test when the ruling Liberal Democratic Party loses its mandate.

The question to be answered is: Will Japan's conservative party and the powerful vested business interests behind it hand over power graciously?

Peter Hazelhurst

The Times Diary

Penetrating the Gallic taste buds

The British Food Export Council has been treating 18 French food trade buyers to three days of hard sell aimed at persuading the French to eat more British processed foods. At the World Trade Centre, the Frenchmen were invited to lick spoons of jam, nibble at Weetabix and suck British boiled sweets. They did so with fastidious care, and a hint of Gallic cynicism.

"France is a gold mine for those who know how to dig it", enthused Philippe Broad, the commercial attaché from the British embassy in Paris. "French tastes are changing, and there are plenty of opportunities."

Lyons hope he is right. The firm (pronounced in French like the city but retaining the final "s") are just opening up their patisserie division which will be selling Frenchmen swiss roll (*roulé framboise*) and packaged apple pie (*tourte aux pommes*). "Two years' research have gone into this, and we have chosen 10 of our 70 products which should appeal to French taste", the man behind the counter said.

At the Milk Marketing Board's cheese stand Erik Masson, the Frenchman who sells English cheese to the French, said that Frenchmen liked their cheddar cheese highly coloured. They did not mind that it was still called Chester in imitation of a processed cheese which was popular after the war.

"French people eat 14 kilos of cheese a year, just about 14 times as much as English people. There is place in that for some cheddar."

At Smedley's stand, Jack Berk, the European sales manager, was concentrating on a few products which were already familiar in France. "The French taste is very chauvinistic. They do not take easily to new products from abroad. Tomato ketchup is accepted, and Lea and Perrins Worcestershire sauce has improved well over the past few years as a sophisticated product at the top end of the market. HP Sauce is less successful: French housewives don't like additives for their cooking. We sell them some piccalilli, but it has to be less sweet than we would have it."

Tate and Lyle thought the French would be interested in Lyle's Golden Syrup now that illustrated labels had been put on showing them how to use it. Baxter's said they were now treating France as part of the home market for their marmalades and meat condiments. "We went to the Paris Agricultural Fair and we were spooning out jam to French peasants and housewives as fast as we could go."

At the Elsenham stand, however, the sales director was bewailing that he had still not managed to persuade a Frenchman to take a commercial interest in Patum Peperium, the anchovy *paste known* as gentleman's relish. "It should be to Continental taste. It was invented by an Englishman living in France in 1828", he said.

The French buyers from the Inno and Monoprix supermarket chains said they were disappointed there were not more new lines on show. "You assume too easily that if a thing is popular in England we will like it in France", said M Poitel of Monoprix. "Take this chocolate mint. To a Frenchman it is just a bon-bon that has got stuck in chocolate." But then he and his colleagues passed round the fruit jellies from the same stand, and smiles of pleasure spread all over their faces.

Withering

Although I had intended waiting until next month, I succumbed to pressure and the temptation of a sunny Sunday and planted the first potatoes on my Brixton allotment last weekend. For my pains, I received some withering comments from the Ace Cultivator, the sage of the neighbouring allotment.

The pressure came from friends and colleagues who have been telling me for two or three weeks now that they have been planting their potatoes. I tell them about the danger of a May/June frost, as we had last year, but in the end I have failed to take my own cautious advice.

"Are they earlies?" people ask me of my seed, and the truth is that I do not know. They were given me by a Scottish farmer last year—some white, some pink and some purple. The white ones have sprouted their regulation half-inch, but the pinks and the purples are less forward, so for now I have simply planted a row of the whites.

Having read the instruction books I started digging a trench about four inches deep, puffing heavily, and set my son to work implanting the potatoes a foot apart, the sprouting ends pointing towards the sky. The sage saw what I was doing and called out: "You digging them up, then?"

"No", I replied, giggling nervously. "Putting them in."

"No need to do all that digging", he said. "Just take a hoe and make a shallow drill and then make small holes with a dibber. That's what I do."

I mumbled something about what the books said, and he expressed his philosophy that books did not take into account the special characteristics of different parts of the country. That was the way he did it, he was satisfied with the results and that was the way he would continue to do it. But not yet.

"I don't go for all this early planting", he said. "Three or four weeks' time will do me. Only got my broad beans and onions in so far. No point in planting the summer stuff. It doesn't grow when it's as cold as this anyway."

His advice is certainly sound, but I *think he fails to allow for* the impatience and excitement of his early years of gardening, the rush to do everything as soon as possible. I and my fellow-novices will surely regret our headstrong bustling; but there is no telling us.

£.s.d.

Whatever happens to the Metrication Bill, one of the last bastions of the British pint seems likely to be the Douglas Arms Hotel in the Welsh slate quarry town of Bethesda. For there they have not yet even recognized decimal currency.

A pint of draught bitter costs five shillings, an impressive array of blended and single malt *whiskies* are labelled at prices ranging from five to seven shillings a nip; a box of Swan Vestas costs 10d, a packet of crisps a shilling. Geoffrey Davies, who runs the hotel with his wife and mother, proclaims that the old British currency was the best in the world.

He keeps a float of about £25 worth of old pennies, threepenny pieces, halfpennies and sixpences. His half crowns were recently withdrawn when he discovered they were worth about 30 shillings each.

His regular customers enjoy perpetuating what many of them see as a leg-pull against the English and keep their own personal stocks of old coins. Their host has to make a concession to his bank and convert his paying-in slips to decimal, because of the computer.

Sense of evil

Two groups of Americans are to come to Britain this year for a "mystery reader's tour" which will take them to the places they have read about in Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, Dick Francis and others. It was thought up by Dilys Winn, who owns a bookshop called Murder Ink, selling only mystery books.

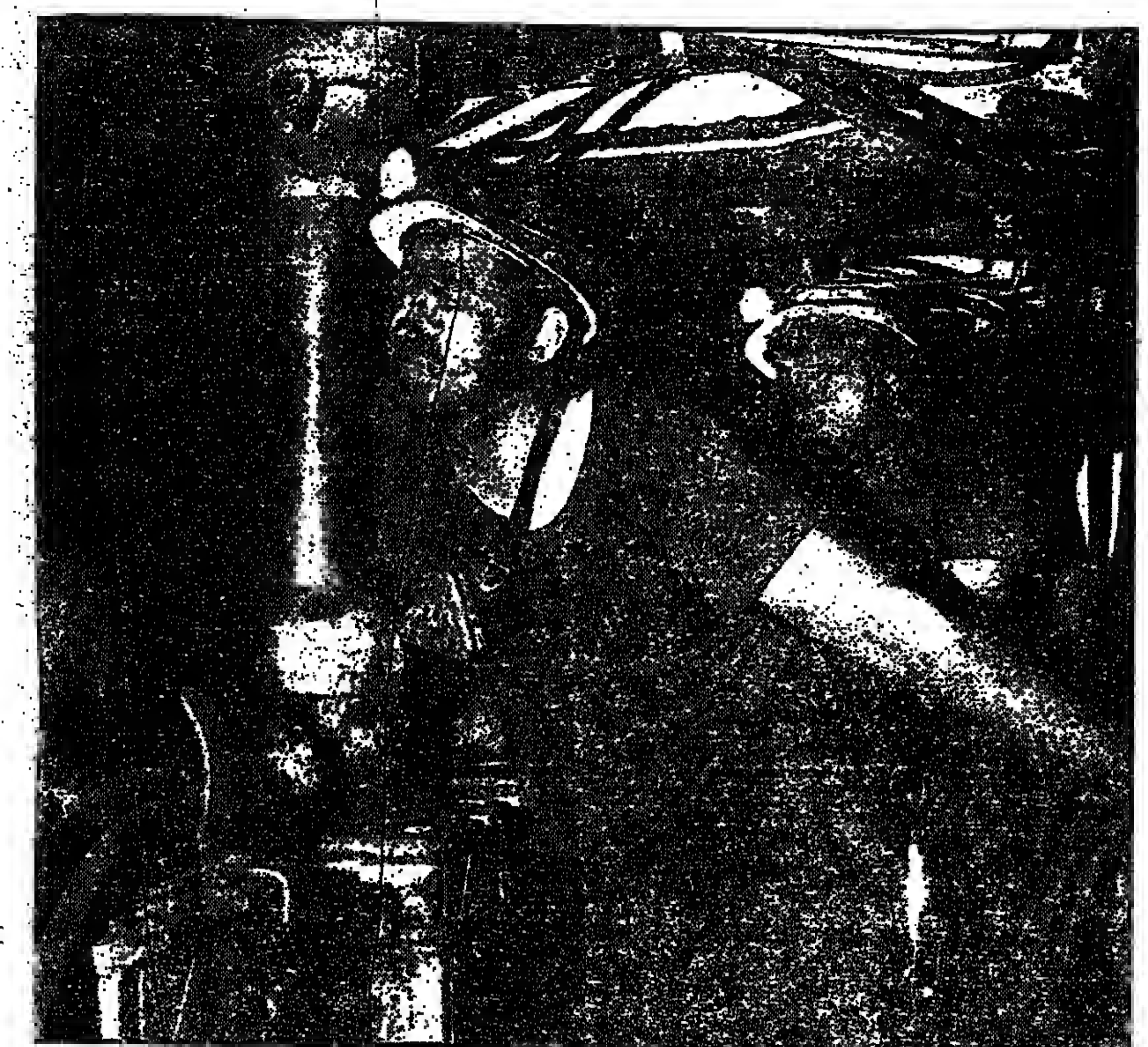
Miss Winn has taken great trouble to think up thrills for the trips. There will be lunches with mystery writers, trips to the Old Bailey and the Tower of London, and a short course in firearms at the Imperial War Museum. There will be a trip to Edinburgh to see where the Burke and Hare murders took place and to look at a plaque to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

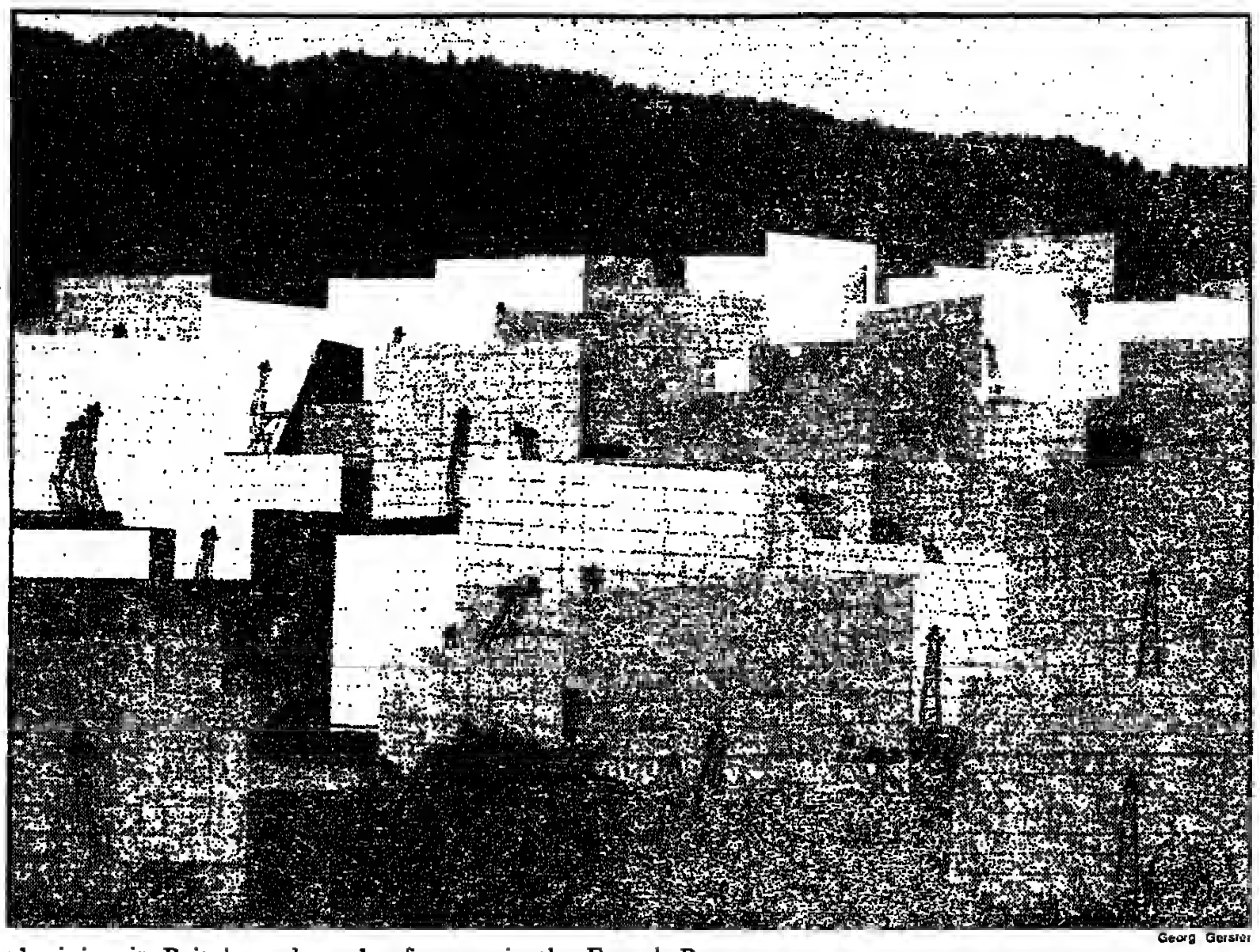
Miss Winn comes to Britain twice a year to buy books, and thought it would be fun to organize the tour. She says Britain still produces far more mystery books than anywhere else. "You people have a fine sense of the evil", she explains.

PHS

Britain is at last facing up to the need for a comprehensive energy policy. This Special Report discusses the difficulties and opportunities that will be posed in the next 10 years for the resources of the nation and the rest of the world

Energy


Robert Golden


Georg Gerster

Energy from traditional and modern sources : coal mining in Britain and a solar furnace in the French Pyrenees.

Scribbles on Mr Benn's blackboard illustrate the complexities of finding an overall plan

by Roger Vielvoye

[Se]nior executives in the [e]nergy-producing industries [of] Britain are renowned for [th]eir inability to agree with [ea]ch other. However, there [is] one area where there is a [br]oad general agreement—[th]e need for an energy [p]olicy which will lay down [th]e basic guidelines for devel[o]ping their respective in[d]ustries over the next 10 [y]ears.

Until now energy policy, [su]ch as it is, has been a [se]ries of decisions concern[in]g individual industries, [of]ten taken after extensive [c]onsultation with manage[m]ent and unions but rarely [ta]king into consideration [th]e views of competitors [an]d certainly not involving [co]nsultation with the com[pe]ting industries.

According to Mr [A]nthony Wedgwood Benn, [th]e Secretary of State for [E]nergy, both the national[iz]ed fuel industries and pri[va]te companies are about to [se]e a fundamental change in [th]e mechanism for produc[in]g policy guidelines. More [th]an 100 executives and [un]ion leaders representing [ev]ery facet of energy [pr]oduction and their ancil[la]ry industries will be in[vi]ted to the first national [e]nergy conference tenta[tiv]ely scheduled for June or [Ju]ly.

Mr Wedgwood Benn says it will give everyone involved in energy the opportunity to voice his opinion and, equally important, hear the views of both management and leaders from other areas.

The representatives will range from the obvious candidates, the nationalized electricity, coal and gas industries which have most frequently been in contact and conflict in the past. This time the state-owned nuclear reactor construction company and the fuel interests will sit alongside the newly-formed British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) and executives and unions from private oil companies both United Kingdom based and foreign.

Supporting industries, such as heavy electrical engineering, shipbuilding, oil platform constructors and offshore suppliers, are on the list as well as experts from research development and conservation.

Mr Wedgwood Benn, as the principal advocate of open government, has had the opening up of the policy-making machinery to the public gaze in view since he moved into the Department of Energy last summer. In his office overlooking the Thames at Millbank he has constructed a blackboard chart showing the complex relationships that bind the various industries to each other and to many government departments, and in some cases their customers.

Farther down the board are the various outside influences, such as the European Economic Community, the International Energy Agency and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which all have an effect on United Kingdom energy policy or are concerned at the decisions taken in Britain.

The blackboard plan for consultation has impressed many visitors, and anyone with ideas is free to make suggestions for alterations or additions. There are outline plans for a world conference of state oil companies with BNOC playing a leading part. During one visit Shaikh Yamani, the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, produced a convincing case against a world conference of this sort and suggested that state oil company contacts should remain on a bilateral basis. His opinion was duly recorded and the idea of the world conference has slipped back.

Visitors, too, from the oil companies have been intrigued by the blackboard approach. But for them it is what follows the blackboard scribbling that is of interest. Even companies which are not over enthusiastic about Britain's offshore participation policy have shown interest in taking part in any debate which will help them to take an active role in formulating energy policy. It is an opportunity that rarely comes along, even for the multinational companies.

The real success of last month's meeting of management and unions from the electricity and coal industries was the establishment of a number of joint working parties which are exploring various areas of common interest. When they discussed among other things a gas tax the British Gas Corporation wanted to join. Nobody will want to be left out of such a potentially important forum.

Bringing the leading voices in the energy business under a single roof is not the whole answer to energy policymaking. The minister and his department will still need to take decisions and Mr Wedgwood Benn is considering giving the Government greater powers to issue directives to the heads of nationalized industries. He already has this power with the BNOC and will probably include similar provisions in legislation to reorganize the electricity supply industry in England and Wales in the light of the Plowden report.

Community involvement in energy policymaking is likely to go much farther than just a national conference. An unofficial discussion paper compiled by Mrs Frances Morrell and Mr Francis Cripps, who act as advisers to Mr Wedgwood Benn, suggests that the Secretary of State for Energy should publish an annual energy policy statement in the form of a White Paper. But as there has been no such publication since the White Paper of 1967, they point out the need for a comprehensive review of energy prospects with all the alternative options for supply and conservation fully set out and costed.

They also wanted controls on competitive advertising by the nationalized industries and more information provided by the Government about the costs of alternative fuels and heating systems. They say that far too few consumers are aware that to provide a given quantity of heat with an electric fire costs three times as much as with a gas fire.

Mrs Morrell and Mr Cripps set out four controlling assumptions for energy policy. They say the Government has a duty to ensure that everyone can afford adequate heat and light at home and that industry's energy needs are fulfilled at reasonable cost.

The Government also has a duty to plan for meeting these objectives on a long-term basis, including the regulation of the depletion of offshore oil and gas reserves. Within this framework consumers should continue to have the freedom to choose between fuels provided at a minimum price which reflects economic cost.

Their definitions may be generally accepted, although their detailed solutions are more controversial. Another of their assumptions is also generally accepted. Despite the advent of North Sea oil, Britain could face another energy gap in the 1990s, once the oilfields are past their peak.

If oil does begin to decline sharply in 15 to 20 years' time, Britain could be facing renewed energy difficulties at the same time as other world consumers who will be suffering from the depletion of oil reserves in the main Opec countries.

Against this background there seems to be merit in the suggestion that the nationalized fuel industries should end their traditional formulation of long-term corporate planning based on independent assumptions and geared to their own objectives rather than long-term planning goals. This carries a built-in bias against joint schemes and does not ensure that all the alternative options for energy supply are fully investigated.

Mrs Morrell and Mr Cripps claim the option of developing a decentralized system of small coal-fired power stations with district heating provisions has not been placed before the public. Equally, they say, there has been little official information on the possibilities of wind, wave, tidal and solar power.

The nationalized industries at present provide a prime example of the need for coordinating planning. The coal industry faces the real possibility that there could be a shortage of coal-burning power stations in the late 1980s. At present the Central Electricity Generating Board has plans for only one new power station order in the foreseeable future and that is nuclear.

Its outline proposals for new capacity include new oil-fired stations but the coal industry wants the go-ahead for the second stage of the Drax station in Yorkshire. At the same time the revamped nuclear construction industry wants continuity of ordering when the first 4,000 megawatts of steam generating heavy water reactor stations have been contracted.

Both coal and nuclear are vital in meeting long-term energy requirements into the next century but on present electricity demand figures there is no economic justification for giving either of these important industries the short-term incentives they need. But a pruning of both industries' wilder ambitions might enable them to remain healthy and able to meet the demands placed on them in the next 10 years.

Attention must be paid as well to the rate at which oil and gas reserves in the North Sea are depleted. Machinery already exists for controlling the rate of depletion and the entry of the BNOC should make this policy easier to carry out. But the Government still needs sound advice on the likely longer-term prospects for finding new reserves in the North Sea and when, in the light of this advice, to activate the control of oil and gas output.

Energy policy can no longer be considered in isolation. EEC energy policy is still in its early stages. The commission seems at last to have thrown off desire for a common energy policy and is moving towards coordination of various national efforts rather than direction.

However, the EEC does present the ideal opportunity for sponsoring joint research and development into the more efficient use of conventional energy sources and the development of alternatives.

Planning and public consultation in the form Mr Wedgwood Benn envisages has been given a fillip by the slump in demand for energy which has produced over-capacity in almost all the industries. Outside the North Sea, investment decisions can be taken at a more leisurely pace and can afford to see the results of the conference before taking any new action.

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Other fuel industries cut but big spending shows Whitehall willingness to back coal

[Th]e White Paper on public [sp]ending published last [mo]nth gave a clear indi[ca]tion that short-term diffi[cu]lties facing the coal in[du]stry will not be allowed [to] deflect the National Coal [Bo]ard from its target of try[in]g to meet a potential [de]mand for coal in the mid-[19]80s of 150 million tonnes [a] year.

The detailed examination [of] the coal industry and its [fu]ture prospects by the [bo]ard, the unions and the [Go]vernment in 1974 [en]dorsed a plan for provid[in]g 42 million tons of new [de]ep-mined capacity and an [ex]tra five million tons a [ye]ar of open-cast coal. New [ca]pacity at this level would [all]ow for natural exhaustion [of] some reserves now being [wo]rked and keep the overall [pr]oduction target in sight.

While a number of public [se]ctor industries saw their [sp]ending forecasts pruned, [th]e coal board was given [pe]rmission to increase [sp]ending up to 1979-80. The [fi]gures show just how far [th]e Government is prepared [to] back the coal industry's [lo]ng-term future.

In 1973-74 the board was [sp]ending £99.3m a year, [wh]ich included substantial [in]vestments in North Sea [ga]s projects. Its offshore [as]sets have since been trans[fe]rred to the British [N]ational Oil Corporation [an]d with them the require[m]ent for future investment. [B]ut capital spending will go [u]p to £219m this year and [le]vel off at an annual figure [of] £242m between 1977-78 [an]d 1979-80.

There was little surprise among the other nationalized fuel industries that coal had managed to keep its long-term plans intact. Judged on the conditions in the market place for coal a case could be made for down-grading some of the board's immediate expansion plans while keeping the long-term goal of a healthy and thriving industry in being. But the board has influential friends in high places.

The market for coal has slumped mainly because its biggest customer, the electricity industry, is in the depths of a recession. Electricity chiefs say the coal industry has caused the slump by increasing power station coal prices two and a half times in two years. But the board and the unions have argued successfully that the lack of demand was foreseen during the examination of the industry and was one of the reasons why the report concluded that the long-term strategy for the industry should not be deflected by short-term fluctuations in the prices and availability of other fuels.

Since the 1973-74 energy crisis coal has been assisted by a string of massive crude oil price rises that have increased the imported price sixfold. No matter how large coal price rises have been it has been able to remain competitive with oil in the power station market.

While in the short term the NCB may be able to overcome the surplus of coal that has developed, ensuring that the fuel remains competitive may be made more difficult.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will by the end of June have had a single 10 per cent price rise over the previous 18 months. Two price freezes have stabilized the crude oil price at between \$10.20 and \$10.50 a barrel and when the organization meets in May the indications are that the freeze could continue.

At worst, from the consumer's point of view, there could be a small increase, but nothing like the huge rises that have taken place in the past. For coal this presents a fundamental problem. The investment programme on which it is embarking is expensive and will certainly need higher prices in the market place once that additional spending gathers momentum and the board is faced with higher interest charges.

The 15 per cent increase from March 1 was calculated with the benefit of the miners' acceptance of the £6 wage limit. Meeting the increased wage bill was in fact only one of a number of reasons for the increase. Without wage restraint it is doubtful whether coal could have remained competitive.

Morale in the industry has been damaged by the ever-increasing stocks of coal and productivity has declined. But the fact that rising stocks have not led to pit closures or other short-term economies has produced a measure of confidence for the longer term future.

Stocks are a major problem for the industry. The NCB has about seven million tonnes of power station coal in its yards and the CEGB had, at the beginning of this month, about 14 million tonnes—about four million tonnes more than it would reckon to have at the end of the winter.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the NCB, told last month's meeting between the coal and electricity industries that unless preventive steps were taken, an extra six million tonnes of coal would be added to stocks in the coming financial year, bringing total colliery stocks to more than 20 million tonnes.

He put forward a package of ideas aimed at increasing the amount of coal burned in the power stations: reduction of imports, a smaller power station consumption of natural gas, and the conversion of more oil-fired power stations to dual firing, so that they could also burn coal.

But in the longer term the real problem is the lack of any prospect for the early construction of another coal-burning power station. The NCB claims that by 1985 the coal-fired portion of the CEGB's capacity will have fallen significantly.

The NCB has been adding to coal reserves at four times the rate of annual consumption. North Sea oil has a limited lifetime, the coal board says, and on this basis all large conventional power stations should be capable of burning coal in the 1990s and there did not appear to be a case for new oil-fired capacity.

A fall in the amount of coal being used in power stations in the 1990s would have a disastrous effect on the NCB's long-term development plans. A decision is expected shortly on the public inquiry into the NCB's proposals for a 10 million ton a year mining complex at Selby, Yorkshire. NCB approval of investment on colliery projects costing more than £1.5m has also increased from £15m in 1973 to £64m in 1975.

R.V.

Sitting on the sidelines and profiting from Opec decisions on oil

[It] was Mr Wilson who first [ga]ve a touch of respectabi[lit]y to the suggestion that [B]ritain, with its new-found [oi]l riches, should apply for [m]embership of the Organi[za]tion of Petroleum Export[in]g Countries (Opec).

The thought of Mr Benn [tea]ming up with the oil [sh]aikhs to fix oil prices or [M]r Wilson attending sum[m]its of Opec leaders pro[vi]ded some amusement in [th]e oil industry but it is an [id]ea that should not be dis[mi]ssed too lightly.

When output from the [Br]itish sector of the North [Se]a reaches two million bar[re]ls a day, probably in the [ea]rly 1980s, Britain's posi[tio]n as one of the major [for]ces in the world oil busi[nes]s will be assured.

[A]lready the output from [th]e BP Forties field, Shell/[Ess]o's Auk find and the [Ha]milton Brothers' Argyll [dis]covery give Britain a [lar]ger daily output than [so]me of the smaller [me]mbers of Opec, like [Ga]bon and Ecuador.

[A]s production increases over the next four years, Britain's output could overtake that of Algeria, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Nigeria, Indonesia and Libya, if that country continues its present conservation policies.

If Kuwait also holds its oil output to about two million barrels a day in an effort to spin out the life of its oilfields, Britain could be fourth among the Opec producers, behind Saudi Arabia, Iran and Iraq.

Originally, Opec took the suggestions that it might receive membership applications from Britain and Norway in good humour. It is thought that the Vienna-based secretariat of Opec has received a tentative inquiry from the Norwegians about the conditions of membership.

The thought of Britain and Norway actually joining has produced a flurry of activity in Vienna. The rules governing membership are being tightened and the next full ministerial meeting in May will be asked to approve a new code.

But it is Norway and not Britain that has the best credentials to gain entry into the exclusive exporters club. Two million barrels a day of production will make Britain self-sufficient in oil but in order to ensure that refineries get the right mix of crudes to manufacture products for the British market most economically, heavier types of oil will still be imported from the Middle East.

Perhaps as much as 40 per cent of refinery requirements will be met through imports, leaving the balance of Britain's own North Sea production available for export. But in Opec terms this hardly counts as exporting.

Britain falls into the category of an industrial country with its own source of crude, like the United States, Russia and Canada. Norway on the other hand will be a true exporter, as its internal needs are small and it has oil fields capable of producing well over a million barrels a day.

Under the new Opec rules all countries applying for membership have to be major producers and exporters, and they will have to prove that oil is their main source of wealth. These tougher rules are not only aimed at potential European members; a number of small producers in the developing countries have been sounding out the possibility of joining.

Opec acknowledges that it has enough difficulty in taking decisions with 13 members and has no wish to make this process any more difficult by introducing more voices into the debate.

So it seems that Britain and Norway will have to sit on the sidelines like other big producers and reap the benefit of higher prices for oil without actually taking part in the decision-making process.

Once the oil begins to flow in large volumes next year Britain's interests will be similar to those of the price "hawks" in Opec, like Iran, which want every penny they can get out of oil.

Opec has realized there is no danger that non-members of the club will be tempted to undercut their prices. The cost of production for all new sources of oil is high and the protection of high Opec prices is needed.

This is demonstrated by the International Energy Agency's need to impose a minimum safeguard price of \$7 a barrel to provide some insurance for the vast sums of money that are being spent in the North Sea and on the development of other forms of energy.

Price competition from these new sources is something Opec is not desperately worried about.

R.V.

Lengthy talks bring success

by Roger Vielvoye

The establishment of the British National Oil Corporation under the former Courtaulds leader, Lord Kearton, has set the scene for direct state involvement in the domestic oil industry for the first time.

After a long period of uncertainty, the new nationalized corporation came into being on January 1. The Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Act arms the new state body with extensive powers to enter every sector of the oil industry and eventually become a fully integrated oil company in the mould of the international giants that dominate world markets.

But the plan for its most important task in its first years is not contained in any legislation. BNOC is the body that will absorb the 51 per cent majority state participation that the Government wants "voluntarily" to negotiate in the commercial oil discoveries that have been made.

These are the oilfields that have been found on licences that legally do not give the state the right to any form of participation. The Government has been trying to persuade the oil companies to let them participate voluntarily and has devised a policy for state involvement that will ensure that the companies do not suffer any financial loss if they allow BNOC a majority, but not necessarily a controlling interest.

No loss, no gain represents a softening of previous government objectives of winning for BNOC a straight equity holding in the various successful oil consortia. It does away with any company fears that state participation would be used to increase the Government's share of revenue from the North Sea. Petroleum revenue tax is now acknowledged to be the instrument for extracting vast government revenues from North Sea oil production and ensuring that there are no embarrassingly large profits for the oil companies.

In its first three months, BNOC has begun to reap the advantages of the long and sometimes arduous participation talks that had been in progress for the 18 months before its formation. The first of these participation agreements represented something of a publicity coup for the Department of Energy and BNOC. Instead of picking off one of the smaller companies in the North Sea, the Government came straight in with an agreement with Gulf Oil, one of the seven largest and most influential international oil companies, and Continental Oil (Conoco), another powerful American-based oil company.

Conoco and Gulf were already equal partners with the National Coal Board in a number of oil discoveries in the North Sea. From January 1, the NCB's assets in the North Sea were transferred to the new state oil company which provided BNOC with 33 per cent of the consortium. To concede majority state participation, the companies were required to surrender a fairly small share of their holdings.

The significant factor to emerge from the agreement was the outline detail which gave BNOC the option of acquiring a full 51 per cent of the consortium's oil output three years from the start of commercial production rising to 57 per cent (assuming that the companies' royalty obligations are paid in oil rather than cash) after five years.

Any oil purchased by BNOC will be at a market price which ensures, the Government says, that there is no financial loss on the deal. Obtaining options on the oil is now the aim but BNOC also wants a seat on the operators' committee which takes all the vital decisions on how the field is developed. In the case of the Conoco/Gulf group, BNOC already had a seat on the organizing committee through the former coal board holdings. But the state company's dominant position in the group since the participation agreement will not give it complete control and, as in the past, all major decisions will have to be unanimous.

The Conoco/Gulf deal was followed by the outright purchase for £83m of Burmah Oil's holding in the large Ninian field development. Burmah's financial troubles made it difficult to conclude a financing agreement to meet its share of the field's development costs. Just before Christmas the Government stepped in and offered to buy Burmah's Ninian stake and gave the company £40m on account.

Burmah had still hoped to negotiate more than £100m from the Ninian sale and use this to finance its commitments to the Thistle field development where the company was responsible for the design, construction and installation of production facilities.

But agreement in principle has been reached for BNOC to acquire a minimum of 51 per cent in all Burmah's remaining offshore interests including Thistle. This will give BNOC access to the team of about 250 experts that are working on the Thistle development.

From BNOC's viewpoint this is a big step forward. Lord Kearton sees the next few years as a time of learning for the state company. The representatives it puts on the various operating committees will feed back information that will gradually enable BNOC to build up its own group of experienced oilmen.

Burmah's offshore team will provide even more valuable information and experience for the company. Lord Kearton's policy is to build up the knowledge but not rush headlong into exploration and production on his own account.

Although Tricentrol, one of the members of the group developing Thistle, has also signed a participation agreement and a *number* of other *small* companies are in advanced stages of negotiation, it may be some time before other large-scale agreements are signed.

Two of the biggest companies in the North Sea, Shell and Exxon's British subsidiary Esso are opposed to the idea of participation and apart from preliminary routine discussions on the subject have made no attempt to negotiate with the Government. Mr Clifton Garvin, Exxon chairman, said on a recent visit to Britain that as participation was voluntary, his company was not volunteering.

His views are shared by a number of other large American-based operators, and although British Petroleum has conceded the principle of BNOC taking 51 per cent of its Forties field, there has been a remarkable lack of progress towards a final agreement since most of BP's directors share the Americans' suspicion of participation.

In part this attitude stems from the rough treatment that many of the international oil groups have received at the hands of members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) over the past two years in a different sort of participation negotiations. Some of the Gulf producers negotiated a formula for giving the state eventual 51 per cent participation in the rich Middle Eastern concessions which involved a long transitional period.

No sooner was the agreement signed than the oil producers decided to increase their stake in the concessions to 60 per cent and began talks about 100 per cent participation. In some company executives' minds participation is a euphemism for nationalization and once a country has a holding in concessions it is only a matter of time before the Government wants to expand its stake.

They will concede that Britain's participation ambitions may be satisfied by gaining 51 per cent rights to the oil but for companies that have huge marketing operations in Britain, loss of the right to the oil is a major concession, and one they will not readily surrender. Conoco and Gulf are not two of the largest marketeers in Britain and it seems likely that when agreements are reached with other major companies there will be a longer period before BNOC has the right to exercise its options.

Without signing another participation agreement BNOC could, if it exercised its option, be handling six million to seven million tons of oil a year by the early 1980s. Inclusion of royalties in crude rather than cash could boost this figure to between 18 million and 25 million tons a year, about a quarter of national consumption.

Investment safeguarded by minimum price

by Peter Kenyon

Fresh hopes for laying the foundations of an EEC energy policy were roused at the European Council of Government leaders in Rome last December. Energy ministers from the nine member countries have only recently demonstrated how justified those *revived* expectations were.

Two issues have bedevilled discussions over the past two years—the United Kingdom's determination to retain sovereign control over the exploitation of North Sea oil and gas and France's insistence on remaining aloof from consumer initiatives that might offend producing countries. These matters crystallized when Mr Callaghan, the British Foreign Secretary, demanded separate representation for Britain in the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC) which opened in Paris at the end of last year.

In return for Britain dropping that stance in Rome, M Giscard d'Estaing, the French President, conceded the principle of measures to safeguard and protect investment in EEC energy resources and promised French participation in energy sharing should supplies be reduced or cut off again.

The basis of an EEC energy supply policy requires that investment guarantee. Without such assurances underpinning investment in the North Sea there are limited benefits, if any, for Britain engaging in a Community-wide energy programme. By 1980, Britain should be producing 100 million to 130 million tons of oil, which with its natural gas, coal and nuclear power plants would make it the only energy self-sufficient country in the EEC. Within 10 years, if production targets are met, British oil could enable the EEC to reduce significantly its imports of Opec supplies.

The key to this potential achievement is a safeguard mechanism for investment. The cost-free means of providing this guarantee is a minimum safeguard price below which prices would not be allowed to fall. This is the technique favoured by all oil-consuming countries represented in the International Energy Agency which has tentatively fixed the minimum safeguard price at $7 a barrel. This represents a significant fall on the current price of about $12 a barrel, but is substantially higher than pre-crisis levels.

However, though its diplomatic objectives have been achieved with the opening of CIEC France still has not joined the American-inspired International Energy Agency, set up in November, 1974. French agreement as a member of the EEC is essential for setting up the necessary machinery to establish a minimum safeguard price.

With the stakes pitched so high it is not surprising that there have been difficulties reaching a minimum general agreement between the nine EEC countries on an energy supply policy. Oil experts agree that irrespective of market membership Britain will be a major oil supplier to western Europe if production targets in the mid-1980s are met. Location and the low-sulphur content of North Sea supplies will see to that. All that market membership restrains Britain from doing, if economic sense did not prevail, is offering cheaper supplies to British consumers, than those in export markets.

Despite the struggle to reach agreement on that side of energy policy, views on energy use and conservation are closer. Measures to restrict the use of oil in electricity generating power stations were agreed 12 months ago. And minimum levels of coal stocks—30 days—were settled last May, to complement minimum levels of oil stocks agreed the previous year.

In addition all nine are committed to conservation policies—varying mixes of exhortation and price policy. The success of steps to reduce consumption is veiled by the impact of the recession, which inevitably hit demand. Part of the reduction in energy consumption is also attributed to the weather—two mild winters in succession. The latest consumption figures compiled by the EEC Commission, from national statistics, highlight grounds for concern spelt out at the beginning of the year in an EEC report on the rational use of energy.

The 1976 forecast is that consumption will grow 3 per cent, compared with 1975. Last year consumption fell 4.7 per cent compared with the previous year and a 2.4 per cent fall was recorded in 1974 compared with the pre-crisis year of 1973. The Commission's target for energy saving agreed by ministers is 15 per cent less energy to be consumed in 1985 than was forecast before the 1973 oil crisis. That would result in a net saving of *250 million* tons of oil equivalent.

The Commission is worried however that measures taken so far by member states are not hard-hitting enough to force down consumption. The only countries in which energy prices have increased at a faster rate than the retail price index are Denmark, France and West Germany. Few of the measures proposed or carried out are likely to modify consumption patterns. Petrol consumption is proving particularly unresponsive to price increases, now that the shock of sudden price increases has worn off. Though there are hopes of substantial savings in buildings, few governments have taken effective steps to encourage better insulation.

A major difficulty with energy conservation policy as proposed by the EEC is the emphasis placed on increasing primary energy supplies through massive investment in nuclear power plants to generate electricity. Electricity generation is wasteful as a source of power for heating. Here conservation objectives are in conflict with the overriding desire to reduce EEC dependence on imported energy supplies.

The EEC's commitment to reduce imports is now in doubt. Originally the Commission had hoped to cut dependence on imported energy supplies from the current level of 63 per cent of primary energy needs down to 40 per cent by 1985. Close examination of the forward investment commitments of the nine member states last year showed this to be wildly optimistic.

The more conservative *objective of 50 per cent* dependence was considered possible. However, the latest production forecasts are lower than those necessary even to reach this more modest objective; moreover they are based on an expected growth rate of between 3.2 and 3.5 per cent. If the economy performs better, and energy savings prove to be largely illusory, even the 50 per cent self-sufficiency target will be unattainable.

To provide some means of ensuring that dependence can be reduced a number of measures have been proposed by Brussels. For coal, the Commission hopes that production can be maintained at current levels—250 million tons. With demand having fallen off because of the slump in economic activity the Commission has suggested, belatedly, that financial aid should be given to enable collieries to hold bigger stocks at the pit-head until the economy returns to normal working levels.

This they hope will enable the pits to maintain their own level of activity at a rate that will not jeopardize the medium-term output objective. By far the biggest problem involved in reducing dependence concerns the massive plans for investment in nuclear power being undertaken by West Germany, France and Italy.

EEC projections for installed capacity generating 200-225 gigawatts (GWE) by 1985, made over 12 months ago, are now unattainable. A more likely prospect is for 140-160 GWE on line by that date, and that assumes no hitches.

Some senior EEC officials now admit that the national plans for this lower level of investment will not be met on time. To help to reduce the financial difficulties of the electricity supply industry, the Commission proposed more than 12 months ago that money should be raised by the Community for on-lending to nuclear power plant investment. The proposed sum—500 million units of account (about £300m)—raised each year would be sufficient to cover 15 per cent of the investment required to meet the lower target.

'High speed' in more ways than one

by Ronald Emler

When it coined the advertising slogan "high speed gas" the British Gas Corporation was describing not only its product but also the industry's progress over the past decade. The advent of natural gas supplies from the North Sea and the relative cheapness of the fuel has enabled gas to make inroads into all the domestic and premium industrial markets, and such has been the demand for gas that the Government has had to relieve the corporation of its statutory duty to supply all potential industrial customers because of inadequate supply.

The growth of gas in the domestic market over the past 10 years has been dramatic but it is not wholly attributable to North Sea supplies. There was a trend toward increasing domestic use before the first natural gas came ashore in 1967. Its main success has been at the expense of electricity, especially in the central heating market. Calculated on a "useful energy" basis gas has increased its share of the domestic fuel market by more than 100 per cent in the past decade.

Sir Arthur Hetherington, the corporation's chairman, has estimated that the theoretical limit of the domestic fuel market which gas can capture is about 75 per cent and by the late 1980s it could be supplying 60 per cent of the market.

Natural gas from the North Sea is saving Britain more than £1,000m a year on the balance of payments in the place of imported oil. The North Sea supplies almost 95 per cent of the gas in Britain and sales have more than quadrupled since the first field, West Sole, came on stream in 1967.

In 1975 natural gas provided Britain with energy equivalent to 54,500,000 tons of coal as opposed to 17,600,000 in 1970. Only 9,000 tons of coal were used last year in what used to be an industry almost wholly based on coal conversion. Carbonization of coal for the manufacture of town gas has been almost ceased and last year gas made from oil was more than 50 per cent down, using less than half a million tons of crude.

The gas industry has met the targets set for it in the 1967 White Paper on energy supply, when it was envisaged that the North Sea would supply 2,000 million cu ft of gas a day in 1971 rising to 4,000 million in 1975. Both targets were met despite the enormous logistical problems involved and there seems little doubt that in the early 1980s the figure will pass 6,000 million cu ft a day.

The dramatic rise in the use of gas over the past 10 years provokes the question, "where does it stop?" The reserves in the North Sea are finite and while we should be making all efforts to curb the use of imported energy this must be balanced against too rapid a depletion of British resources. Already the Leman Bank and Indefatigable fields have reached "plateau level" of supply.

The Government's annual report on the industry merely says that existing discoveries are sufficient to support production "well into the 1980s." But it has been estimated that the present contracts are sufficient to keep production ahead of demand from premium users (the domestic market and special industries) for about 20 years.

The gas industry, however, is unlike any other in the energy sector in that it is dominated by high costs and the rigidity of its expensive piping system. The time and level of investment needed to bring new sources of supply into the system means the industry has to take decisions today based on calculations of demand and possible supply 10 to 15 years hence. For instance the conversion of more than 13 million homes, offices and factories to natural gas, begun in 1967 at Burton on Trent, is 95 per cent complete.

The next two large fields to come on stream will be Frigg and Brent. Frigg was due to be putting gas into the system later this year, but a series of delays, including the sinking of a platform, have put the timetable back by a year. It is also expected that the Rough field will come into operation this year making an extra 500 million therms a year available.

Frigg will increase the amount of natural gas coming ashore by about a third, some 1,400 million cu ft a day. Brent is scheduled to be in production in 1978, and together they will raise the corporation's production capability to about 6,000 million cu ft a day by the early 1980s.

It is likely that initially, most of this extra capacity will be directed toward the industrial sector. On present timetables the two fields will be beginning production as the British economy is recovering. British Gas has begun to negotiate supply contracts with industry and commerce and a recent White Paper indicated that commercial sales are expected to rise from the present 1,500 million therms annually to 2,200 million by 1980 and that industrial usage should increase from 6,000 million therms in the next financial year to 7,800 million in 1979-80.

In the past decade industrial use of gas has increased more than six-fold and last year more than 6,000 million therms were consumed in this manner out of a total production of about 13,000 million therms. More than half the sales to industry went to customers using more than 100,000 therms.

The Frigg field straddles the line between the Norwegian and British sectors of the North Sea and this year the Norwegian Government is due to announce proposals for the distribution of gas from the Statfjord field, part of which is in the British sector.

This huge field has estimated reserves of up to 2,000,000 million cu ft of gas. When it comes into production in the 1980s it could provide as much as two million cu ft a day to Britain. British Gas, keeping up its usual guarded position, is certainly interested in securing the supplies, but so are the other members of the EEC who have also experienced a huge swing to gas in the past decade.

So far only the southern sector of the North Sea has come on stream as far as natural gas is concerned. The Department of Energy believes that further large gas finds in that area are unlikely *but* the chances of discovering additional gas in more northerly waters are estimated to be fairly high.

There is also the possibility of commercial finds in other sectors. British Gas's subsidiary, Hydrocarbons of Great Britain, has already struck gas off Blackpool and the search in the Irish Sea has just restarted. The Government is due to make announcements this year about the future of exploration in the Celtic Sea and recently licences to prospect in parts of Humberside and Lincolnshire were granted.

Even allowing for further commercial finds, British Gas is looking far ahead to the day when natural gas supplies begin to dwindle. It is studying production of gas "flared off" from offshore oil fields and is also examining the production of substitute natural gas (SNG).

Last year it was stated by Mr A. G. Pratt, chairman of the south-eastern region of British Gas that "even when the known offshore reserves of natural gas begin to be depleted, the use of substitute natural gas will become an attractive proposition. Naphtha feedstocks from North Sea oil could be used and research is being carried out by British Gas on behalf of United States companies on the manufacture of SNG from coal".

He went on to say that the replacement of natural gas by electricity rather than by SNG would be more expensive and would be an inefficient way of using primary fuels. It has even been suggested that two small power stations in Orkney and Shetland could *switch* to natural gas as their generating fuel.

Additional imported supplies of liquefied gas are available from Algeria, but it seems unlikely that the corporation will have to consider large increases in such supplies for the forseeable future. British Gas, according to the last annual report, is making "a growing contribution to the nation's energy requirements". In terms of heat supplied it is providing 25 per cent of the total and will continue to grow. There is a reasonable prospect of gas providing about 35 per cent of the nation's "useful heat output" by the early 1980s.

The issue of pricing is vexed. British Gas never discusses what it pays the operators for North Sea supplies but it is certain that in coming years it will not get away with the low prices which prevailed while the market was growing rapidly. There have been suggestions that there ought to be an additional tax on gas to bring it more into line with prices needed for other fuels, especially electricity, but this is being strongly resisted by British Gas. It seems likely that as gas continues to enlarge its market share it will remain extremely competitive.

Countries living beyond their mineral means

by Pearce Wight

What happens when energy supplies run out? Since the fossil and mineral fuels—coal, gas, oil end uranium—have finite limits, their depletion in the near future is assured by the present rate of exploitation. One calculation of reserves puts coal at 6,641,200 million mnnes, oil at 76,200 million tonnes, natural gas et 49,900,000 million cu metres and uranium et 761,400 tonnes. With no restriction cn the way these resources are being used they would be worked out respectively by 2083, 1992, 1994 and 1995. Ways of extending the life of non-renewable deposits are discussed constantly. Conservation and more efficient processes by industry and in transport would extend the life of coal by 300 years, oil by 100 years. Uranium deposits would last longer by changing to a new generation of nuclear reactor, the fast breeder.

However, these ideas for nuclear power development contain important questions for debate. They include environmental safety and the long-term hazard to the population from adding small amounts of radioactivity to the surroundings. Both are an inevitable by-product caused by the wastes of a nuclear power programme.

With world energy demand increasing by about 5 per cent a year e dilemme is looming for both the developed and developing nations. World population is expected almost to double by the year 2000, despite population control policies and new methods of contraception. Maintaining this number of people, without any question of raising standards of living, will require more than three times the present rate of energy production.

A rule of thumb in energy calculations, applicable to both industrial and underdeveloped countries, is that poor people need a sharp rise in the amount of energy they use if their living standards are to show any appreciable improvement above subsistence level. Studies by the Department of the Environment and the Department of Employment in Britain show ther, thereafter, income tends to be devoted progressively to less energy-intensive activities in the form of goods and services.

Yet the questioo of what happens when supplies run out received scant attention from politicians, Whitehall mandarins or industrialists until members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries flexed their muscles.

There are still diehards who believe that an end to intransigence by the oil sheikhs would sooo restore a level of prosperity to industrial countries. Their failure to recognize the real issues is not surpriing considering the adustment they are being aked to make to their thinkng. Not one government amng the western industrial nations had anything resembing an energy policy before the so-called crisis.

The speed of transtion to expensive oil spplies showed dramatically the polifical and economi insecurity of the technoogical societies, sustaining their material well-being on cheap fossil fuel ergy. But scarcity of resurces goes far beyond fossil fuels. Other non-reneable resources such as aluminium, copper, lead and zinc are finite: though sone of thesa materials can be recycled in certain uses.

The people of the industrial world bave to face the fact that their way of life must change, they must consuma less of the non-renewable geological resoures, whether fuel or industial minerals. Decisions abut this issue seldom take into account the expectations of the developing countres, which wish to approach tne standards of the afflnent nations.

Recognition of the tre nature of the dilemma came rather belatedly from the Department of Energy. Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, suggested that Britain would be self-sufficient in energy by the 1980s; but he forecast a serious energy gap in the 1990s.

At least 40 years for a new source

On available evidence the first proposition seems debatable and the second indisputable. Self-sufficiency hinges on predictions for oil from the North Sea, neglecting rather conveniently that it is the most expensive oil man has taken from the earth. Plugging the gap that is seen widening in the 1990s depends on finding satisfactory alternative sources which could be developed only with some dramatic overhaul of existing industries.

All experience indicates that it takes at least 40 to 50 years to introduce a major new energy source into the economy. Oil took longer than that before challenging coal as the main sources of fossil fuel. Nuclear power has a long way to go to prove itself as the next serious rival to the hydrocarbon fuels.

Atomic energy raises serious matters concerning the risk of exceeding the capacity of the environment to absorh pollutants without causing irreversible damage to health. Thus there is a twofold argument about developments affecting the future of energy supplies. Ideally, new sources must be renewable and universally applicable (hence the attraction of solar, wind, wave and water power, and of the use of phomsynthesis and fermentation of plant products).

In practice these alternative sources of energy require a higher degree uf technical skill to perfect than is normally conceded in discussions ebout their future role. The problem in many poor countries is that population growth has kept the amount of energy available per head of population static.

A guide to the way energy consumption changes with styles of living was given by Dr Malcolm Slesser, of Strathclyde University, at e conference on understanding energy systems. He introduced an energy analysis of food production with a comparison of the Tsembaga tribe of New Guinea and the Americans. The Tsembaga produce about 160 times per head as much food as the Americans, even though tha people of the United States, using advanced technology, occupy about the same area of agricultural land for the size of population.

With 6 per cent of the world population, the United States uses almost e third of tha world energy supply. The yearly increase in America is abont 1 per cent for each head of population compared with e world everage of almost 1.3 per cent. World supplies will have to treble to keep up with the increase in population if this figure is to remain tha same. Under these conditions the gap in energy usage between the United States and the Third World will have narrowed very little by the turn of the century. One calculatioo suggests it could take 300 years to close the gap.

The growth of the economies of the industrial countries has been associated with an exponential increase in the demand for energy. An identical trend must be expected in the poor nations if a life style approaching that of the West is to be the goal. Even with the most optimistic analyses, there is no way in which uniform high standards of living can be achieved throughout the world on the existing known reserves of fossil and mineral energy deposits.

World resources are substantial, particularly the deposits of coal. New processes, such as fluidized bed combustion, will enable soft brown coal with high sulphur content to be hurned in power stations without producing unacceptable levels of pollution.

Unfortunately the development of low-grada materials costs more then for the more easily accessible and richer geological strata. Industrial societies are simply living beyond their means in the way they are spending capital by depleting non-renewable resources. Indeed, many scientists and engineers believe the situation is even more bizarre because the hydrocarbons are being used for the wrong purposes. Burning them es fuel in boilers is one of the least desirabla methods of using large naturally occurring organic molecules which can be turned into commodities as diverse as pharnaceuticals and plastics, lubricants and fertilizers.

Most countries are banking on nuclear power for their lung-term energy supply in spite of the fact that there is not enough uranium to support a world programme of any size for more than 25 to 30 years. Nuclear power is a capital-intensive technology: atomic stations cost about twice as much as comparable size fossil fuel stations.

Contrary to soma popular beliefs, nuclear power is not e potential source of cheap energy, under any circumstances. There are political end economic aspects of the technology which coull follow the pattern of oil. In this case the limited resources in the earth will come under the domintion of a cartel of uraiium exporting countries.

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Britain could exploit US research schemes

The energy crisis facing the world is a little like the traditional riddle about the farmer, e pood and a water lily. Each day the lily doubles in size and will in 20 days cover the pond, choking all other creatures aod plaots. The farmer decides he can wait until the plant fills half the pond hefore cutting it hack. Bnt when would that be?

The answer is on the nineteenth day, leaving the farmer one day to save his pond. The parallel between this coonndrum and the energy crisis is that traditional sources of non-renewable fossil fuels have been used at a rate comparable with the growth of the lily. The consequent question about energy supplies is simple: is there enough time to develop alternative sources of energy, preferahly renewahle, to take over from the fossil reserves?

Over the past three years, since the industrialized countries were forced to recognize their profligate use of hydrocarbon fuels, only one country has produced e comprehensive policy for energy research end development. That is the United States.

Apart from being the first to ambrace all aspects of research and development, the plan is important because most of the schemes proposed could be exploited to soma extent in Britain. Some ideas, like exploitation of geothermal energy by extracting the heat welling up from the magma or molten rocks, in the earth's crust, are more applicahle to parts of North America where volcanic activity is nearer the surface; similarly there are more regions suitable for solar energy schemes. By any criteria, the objectives set in the American plan are very ambitious, but they have been described concisely as a need to fulfil five goals.

Resources must he available, first, to ensure the security end policy independence of the conotry. Sufficient energy must be available for industry to sustain e healthy economy and full employment. Life styles must remaio a matter of choice and not be restricted by limited, or by the absence of, particular forms of energy. World stability in energy supplies must be maintained by a proper exchange of resources and knowledge. New forms of energy resource must be consistent with preservation of the quality of land, water, air and general public health.

Thus the challenge facing the industrial countries must be to create the widest possible range uf choice for the future. The list of energy resources for this purpose is long. It includes lengthening the life of traditional reserves by converting low-grade coals into liquid hydrocarbons or hy designing furnaces that can use such fuels without polluting the environment, and extracting oil from shales and tar sands.

More exotic inventions include things like converting solar energy into e usable form by water photodisassociations. Hence a complete inventory of possible new sources covers coal, crops, fissile and fertile nuclear materials, geothermal, hydroelectric, natural gas, ocean heat, shales and tar sands, sunlight, tides, waves, waste heat from power stations, cooversion of waste materials including plastics into raw materials or fuels, fusion end windpower.

Unfortunately, history shows that 50 to 60 years are needed to meet the combined research, development and market coodiions necessary for a new fuel to make an impact. With the best will in the world, time cannot be said to he on the side of the energy planners.

The same thought was propagated about three years ago in the rather dramatic publication *Limits to Growth*. It was in practice the title of a computer game written by Professor Dennis Meadows, at Dartmouth College, predicting that industrial economies will collapse within e hundred years unless somebody does something about raw materials and energy supplies. The exercise was embraced by the Club of Rome, a set of eminent industrialists, economists and politicians who are searching for some better ways of running the world which will not end in environmental disaster.

The opposition from economic pundits in industry and government showed that the analysis hed struck sensitive spots. What jarred most was that an analysis using the methods treasured by the economists and planners in energy and other prime industries had produced such nasty conclusions. The methods of computer simoletion are used regularly to assess future projects, but they include the assumption that an exponential growth of industrial activity was an inherently beneficial thing.

All Professor Meedows did was to pose some lily-pond questions, suggesting that exponential growth—particularly of energy resources—was not perbaps possible in a finite world.

It might be politically desirable to develop new sources of energy more quickly theo ever before: however, experience suggests that this is not technically possible. An examination of the policies of research being prepared for Eoropean countries suggests that most emphasis is given to complicated technologies. Yet the more complex the technical idea, the longer it will take to evaluate and introduce as e major source of supply.

More priority should be given to energy conservation schemes and development of smaller scale alternative resources. The emphasis of most energy policies of the western countries is to increase the large electrical generating and distribution networks. To achieve this the fossil foel and first generetion nuclear plants will be superseded by fast breeder nuclear reactors.

Little attention is peid to the inevitable shortcomings of the traditional electrical-geoeration system, which nuclear stations serve only to perpetuate. Less than one out of every three tons of fuel fed into a station is cooverted usefully into electrical energy. The other two tons—whether oil, coal, gas or uranium—dissipate as waste heat io the cooling waters and air needed for power plants.

Impressive energy savings could come from harnessing this waste heat for industrial process purposes and for district heating schemes of homes and offices. Plans to develop networks to distribute this source of eoergy to industry, housing estates or elsewhere would need e great amount of research to get the maximum beoefits.

If such distribution networks are edopted then the most potential energy aource of all, the nuclear fusion reactor, assumes great importance in research policies. It is difficult to see circumstances under which a fusion reactor could form the heart of an experimental commercial power station in less than 25 years. Decisions are pending on whether to intensify studies in this technique over the next few years as e matter of urgency.

The release of energy by nuclear fusion occurs when light elements combioe to form heavier ones with en associated surplus of energy. The hydrogen bomb and violent events on the surface of the sun produce eoergy from fusion processes. In the laboratory the mechanism is reproduced with enormous machines. Very hot hydrogen gases, reaching temperatures of more than 100 million degrees ceotigrade, are produced by using immensely powerful electromagnetic coils. Clearly at these temperatures the soperhot gases canoot be held in conventional containers. The trick is to confine the gases in invisible "hottles" created by magnetic fields.

Understanding fusion physics is a demanding business, and the machines designed by scientists to carry out research are large and expensive. In comparison, ideas for developing photosynthesis as an industrial energy source appear much more straightforward. Since fossil fuels originated from past photosynthesis, it seems reasonable to examine the chances of using the same source agein.

Most crops euitable to temperate climates can absorh, in useful energy conversion, up to 10 per cent of solar radiation at low light intensities. This makes them better converters of solar energy then devices for producing electricity from the sun's rays. Crops can be turned directly into solid fuels or provide raw materials for anaerobic fermentation to make mathane gas. Alternative chemical schemes can yield glucose and then ethanol to consume as a liquid foel.

P.W.

Oil wealth fails to fill depressed pockets in east Scotland

by David Leigh

Before the oil came Scotland was a depressed part of the United Kingdom, despite some nationalist stirring. The beauty of the Western Highlands which the English tourists saw masked the emptiness of a depopulated countryside where lack of opportunity and unemployment drove young people out.

In the central industrial belt the long decline of heavy industry (in much grimmer surroundings) posed one of Britain's most severe regional difficulties. Scottish politics meant the anxious monitoring of jobs. Despite inducements to industry, the average annual unemployment rate in Scotland was 3.54 per cent between 1960 and 1964, more than twice that of the United Kingdom as a whole. In the second half of the decade it was still nearly three-quarters as high again as that of the United Kingdom.

As recently as the 1970 general election there was no significant quantity of oil to figure as an issue in Scotland. The Nationalists, whose fortunes had been insignificant for a generation, argued defensively against the general view that a degraded Scotland, begging bowl in hand, simply could not survive unaided.

The first strike in the Forties Field, in 400ft of turbulent North Sea water, 100 miles east of Aberdeen, came in November, 1970. It was a landmark: five years later the first oil from that field came out of a pipeline at Cruden Bay on the north-east coast. By then there were 14 commercial oilfields off-shore from Scotland, two dozen exploration rigs still drilling and a lattice of completed and projected pipelines for both oil and gas on the seabed. The face of Scotland had been erratically and patchily transformed.

As the pace of oil discoveries quickened and the Middle East producers trebled the world price of oil, the United Kingdom Government was caught up in a race (as civil servants now ruefully concede) to help the companies get the oil out of the ground. If in 1970 it represented a windfall, it soon came to be seen as a huge mine of wealth and eventually as one of the most important means of economic salvation the whole country possessed.

Britain will become more than self-sufficient in oil by the end of the decade: on present estimates there will be £3,500m oil revenues in the Treasury by 1980 and up to £3,500m every year thereafter. The balance of payments deficit through oil imports was £3,100m last year. In four years' time the value of United Kingdom oil production will be some £5,000m and £2,500m of it will represent savings on the balance of payments.

The rapid depletion rates envisaged will mean that oil production from the North Sea passes its peak in about 20 years' time, although quantities should still be coming out well into the next century.

From a Scottish perspective these huge and extraordinary statistics look rather different than they do from London. The actual impact of the oilmen, with their dollars, green field construction sites and spectacular plans, has been something of a *mixed* blessing.

At first geographical accident and the demands of technology set the pace entirely. Oil companies wanted harbours on the east coast to service their exploration rigs and pipeline landfalls. Aberdeen, Peterhead and Montrose started to boom. The irony of this was that they were reasonably prosperous parts of Scotland already and are now even more prosperous.

The value of houses in Aberdeen trebled, homes were bulldozed for development and the city, which looks like remaining an administrative centre for oil activity for a fair time to come, now has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the United Kingdom.

The next phase was steel production platforms: Scotland got more jobs building them, in the Highlands at Ardersier and Nigg Bay and at Methil, farther down the east coast. Workers drifted east; but the jobs will not last more than about 10 years and already this year a serious gap in orders is developing, with the fear of sudden huge redundancies.

Another technical development now threw up an ominous portent. The oil companies wanted to build concrete platforms, needing a combination of deep water and flat land near by. The Western Highlands were ideal, and the confusion and acrimony that developed over applications to take over a Highland beauty spot at Drumbuie for platform building was followed eventually by Government efforts to take a grip on the oil situation. Another concrete platform site had already been authorized at Loch Kishorn near by, but somewhat less vulnerable.

The Government has lists of preferred development sites, more powers over developers and reformed planning inquiry procedures; but there is no doubt that the fast pace of development took them by surprise at first.

In the Shetland and Orkney Islands a third phase of industrialization fell on remote areas. Shetland at least was already achieving a reasonably diversified economy as well as a distinctive way of life. A terminal for two far northern fields has been built at Flotta, Orkney, and the Shetland Islands Council, which took an exceptionally tough line on would-be developers, is now a partner in the £100m construction of Europe's largest oil terminal at Sullom Voe.

After having passed its own Act of Parliament, Shetland has great control over developers, a rehabilitation fund for the day when the party turns out to be over, and a carefully constructed model village to house incoming site workers. The islanders are generally thought to have avoided the worst of pell-mell industrialization.

Now the oil rush is moving into another phase when some fairly permanent growth may emerge. This month's grant of planning consent for an American oil refinery at Nigg on the north-east coast, despite environmental objections, demonstrates the anxiety for work which is still the key to Scottish attitudes. It may make 450 permanent jobs.

There are hopes that some type of native petrochemical industry may grow up: what are called natural gas liquids—propane, butane, ethane—are also going to flow ashore and, while they may be exported to the United States, the ideal development from a Scottish point of view would be if they could be used as petrochemical feedstock, preferably in the depressed central belt.

For the biggest irony of the wealth of oil for Scotland has been that the industrial developments have gone to some of the wrong places. While some areas in the east have become overheated with extra grants having to be given to local authorities struggling to build sewers, water supplies, surgeries and schools, Glasgow and the industrial west has the biggest social difficulties and fairly little oil work, apart from some heavy engineering spin-off. Platform construction sites on the Clyde await orders.

Oil has created 50,000 jobs in Scotland, some more desperately needed than others, but only a minority are in the Strathclyde region. Other depressed pockets in the east like Dundee and Caithness have tended to miss out for geographical reasons, although there is a Norwegian-linked oil service base now under construction in the Outer Hebrides.

While unemployment in the United Kingdom is going up, Scotland's unemployment gap is undoubtedly shrinking. In 1975 the Scottish rate was 4.69 per cent: the United Kingdom's was 3.63 per cent. Emigration has ceased: the gap in wage levels between Scotland and England has almost closed.

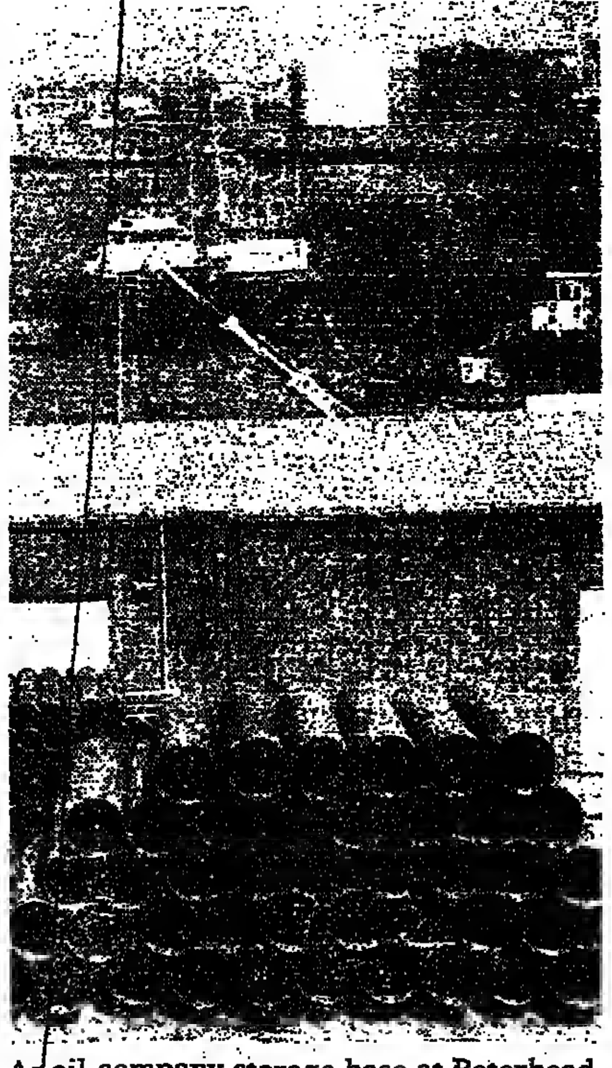
The remote north and east are getting investment in better communications: a new runway for Shetland, £3.7m to boost the capacity of the Highland rail line to Inverness, and the rebuilding of the trunk road to the north-east Highlands.

The future pattern of industrial development is still uncertain: how much more of the oil-related domestic market can Scottish companies move into? Will companies compete effectively in the expanding worldwide market for offshore equipment? But Scotland is clearly a more prosperous place, however patchy and precarious the process may be.

The most far-reaching impact of the oil on Scotland lies perhaps beyond this pattern of industrial pickings. It has thrown Scotland into a political turmoil which may yet dissolve the balance of political forces in the United Kingdom. With oil the Scottish Nationalists rapidly saw that an independent Scotland would have access to wealth.

This changed everything. They campaigned vigorously, if crudely, on the theme "it's Scotland's oil" and have been doing so much electoral damage that Westminster has been forced into devolutionary schemes of semi-independence. At the same time the industrial development associated with the oil has led to more local *self-confidence, rising expectations* and an increased sense of national identity.

For once this century the Scots see that they have not only some jobs but closeness to a part of the economy which the United Kingdom as a whole desperately needs. Opinion polls show that the Scottish National Party has the biggest support in Scotland—33 per cent, according to the latest sample. At least oil has already brought the Scots to devolution. At the most it might, in the view of a surprising number of politicians, bring about the subsequent break-up of the United Kingdom.



An oil company storage base at Peterhead.

Sun, wind and sea may be worth pursuing as an insurance

by Kenneth Owen

Last year the research *department* of the Central Electricity Generating Board published the results of an examination of the likely future importance of five main alternative sources of power—the sun, the wind, the waves, the tides and the heat inside the earth.

For generating electricity none of these emerged as directly competitive with nuclear power. But some of the options might be worth pursuing as an insurance against delays in the nuclear programme, it was suggested.

According to the Electrical Research Association at Leatherhead, Surrey, up to 10 per cent of Britain's annual electricity consumption could be provided by wind power. The CEGB's estimate is not more than 1 per cent.

The bad news is that the ERA estimate is based on one or more standard 60-metre diameter wind turbines located at each of nearly 1,500 hill sites near the coast—with obvious environmental implications.

But the United Kingdom is one of the best placed countries in the world for exploiting wind power on a national scale, the association points out.

A commercial initiative, with partial support from the National Research Development Corporation, has been made by two companies which have combined to form the Wind Energy Supply Company (Wesco). Using helicopter technology, Wesco is offering several sizes of wind-driven plant.

According to the ERA, *much larger units* would be required for wind energy to make any significant contribution to meeting United Kingdom energy needs. Among present research projects a new type of vertical-axis wind turbine is being developed at Reading University; and wind power coupled to flywheel energy storage is being examined at Exeter University.

Design and development effort, but no new technology, would be needed to exploit wind power through large (one to two megawatts) units, the ERA suggests. Capital costs are estimated at between £150 and £200 a kilowatt.

Small machines would be fairly expensive and would be justified only in special situations such as remote, windy sites where alternative fuel costs are high. But, given the right conditions (and a high wind speed is important, since the power available is proportional to the cube of the wind speed), large units are potentially attractive for supplying electricity competitively to the grid.

Solar power, a diffuse source, can potentially be used either to produce electricity or to contribute heat directly in water or space heating systems.

Solar cells similar to those used on spacecraft, which convert solar radiation directly to electrical energy, are generally expensive and inefficient for use on earth. But they are used to a limited extent for charging batteries on boats, caravans and in other mobile or isolated situations.

Direct sunlight can also be focused by way of mirrors on to a boiler, and the steam used to generate electricity. But a sun-following mechanism is needed, the electricity generation part of the process is uneconomic at present, and the prospects for this concept in Britain would not be very bright.

An ambitious proposal for an orbiting satellite which would have huge solar-cell arrays and would beam the energy down to special receivers on earth has been put forward in the United States. This would be technically feasible but economically disastrous at present, although it might become more attractive in the longer-term future (beyond the next 10 years).

Solar heating for domestic hot water systems is a different matter. *Solar thermal* panels are already in use in a number of otherwise conventional houses in Britain (and as part of special experimental energy saving houses in many countries).

Architects and builders are showing great interest in applying this source of energy in new buildings. According to the Building Research Establishment, a solar collector panel of four square metres on an average house could provide the equivalent of about 1,600 kilowatt-hours a year, a saving from about £17 (offpeak rate) to £32 (peak rate) a year on electricity costs.

The cost of installing the solar system on an existing house would be from £300 to £500. In these systems the solar panel (which typically would be mounted on a south-facing roof) conducts heat into a fluid (such as water, air, water/ethylene-glycol mixture, or a special oil). The fluid is pumped through a heat-exchange coil in a special tank from where the heated water feeds into the normal hot-water tank.

If all new houses built for the next 30 years could be fitted with solar-heating panels CEGB scientists concluded and if an equal number of existing houses were converted, domestic solar power could then substitute for about 4 per cent of Britain's energy needs. But the high capital cost was likely to reduce the market penetration below this figure.

Geothermal energy, obtained by drilling to tap the underground heat of the earth, is not regarded as a promising prospect for Britain. For economic exploitation high temperatures have to be obtained at fairly shallow depths—in other words the geothermal gradient must be fairly high.

"Normal" regions have gradients of about 40°C per km; "semi-thermal" regions show 40°C to 80°C per km; and "hyperthermal" regions 80°C per km. All the world's best-known geothermal sites occur in hyperthermal regions where reservoirs of wet or dry steam are available at temperatures from 200°C to 350°C.

It is generally assumed that there is no possibility of locating a natural steam area within the United Kingdom, but semi-thermal areas can occur in any part of the world as a result of local anomalies.

The average geothermal gradient in Britain is only about 25°C per km, but in some areas the figures are much higher. Warm springs in the area of Bath and Bristol, for example, have been used since Roman times.

The "hot rock" type of dry geothermal source is also of potential interest for Britain. It appears from limited measurements that the large granite batholith which forms the spine of Cornwall could prove to be exploitable.

Another prospect for the longer-term future is the North Sea, where oil drilling has revealed some of the highest temperature gradients recorded in the United Kingdom. It has been suggested that after the oil fields are exhausted this source of geothermal energy could be exploited.

Power from the sea can come in two forms—from the waves (essentially a form of wind power) and from the tides. Both are being investigated in detail.

Many devices have been patented for extracting energy from the waves, but much interest in the United Kingdom is centred on the work of Mr S. H. Salter of the Mechanical Engineering Department at Edinburgh University. A rocking-float design by Mr Salter has shown a 90 per cent efficiency in carefully controlled laboratory conditions.

Experiments by the British Hovercraft Corporation on a series of coupled rafts have yielded efficiencies about 50 per cent under more practical conditions.

The wave oscillations could be converted into usable power in various ways, including the possibility of self-contained "floating factories" for processes such as hydrogen production or uranium separation from sea water.

In tidal power the key area in Britain is the Severn Estuary, which has one of the highest tides in the world. In the simplest type of tidal scheme a dam is built across the estuary; the dam contains turbines which enable electricity to be generated as the tide comes in and again as it goes out.

Improved performance can be obtained from two-basin arrangements, which can give continuous power. Such schemes can be used for pumped storage of night power from the main nuclear stations.

On CEGB estimates a Severn Estuary scheme could yield up to 5,000 megawatts. Construction cost could be up to £2,500m, together with interest charges caused by the long construction period.

If an overall cost-benefit analysis proved positive, bearing in mind other factors such as the deep-harbour benefits to shipping and the transport benefits of a road across the estuary barrage, the CEGB indications are that "such a scheme, by the time it is built, could provide something like 10 per cent of the country's electrical power needs from a source of energy which is wholly independent of inflation and political influence".

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IT LOOKS LIKE MR CALLAGHAN

The first ballot for the leadership of the Labour Party has not been absolutely decisive but it has probably settled the issue. Mr Foot has come top of the ballot but his lead over Mr Callaghan is too narrow for him to have more than a slight chance of eventual victory. The combined left wing vote of Mr Foot and Mr Benn comes to 127, whereas the combined centre and right wing vote of Mr Callaghan, Mr Jenkins, Mr Healey and Mr Crosland comes to 187, and Mr Callaghan already has nearly half of it. There may be a small amount of second preference voting for Mr Foot by those who have supported the lower placed candidates of the centre and right, but it is not at all likely to offset the basic centre majority of 60. Mr Benn, as we thought probable, has done not at all badly, beating both Mr Healey and Mr Crosland.

Mr Jenkins and Mr Benn have already said that they will withdraw from the second ballot and Mr Crosland has been knocked out. That left the decision for Mr Healey whether he ought to withdraw also, and he has decided not to. The gap of 28 between Mr Callaghan and Mr Jenkins was too large for Mr Jenkins to bridge; even if he got the whole of Mr Crosland's votes he would still have been behind, and he certainly could not expect that the whole of Mr Crosland's vote would transfer to him. Mr Healey is still further behind; he might hope to increase 30 votes to a majority in a deadlocked convention, but this convention is far from deadlocked. It is rambling rapidly towards a Callaghan majority.

The theory of Mr Healey's continuing campaign must be that he can pick up most of Mr Jenkins's votes, most of Mr Crosland's, even some of Mr Foot's, it is said. He will pick up some votes, though his Foot votes sound a remote hypothesis, but starting 54 behind Mr Callaghan he can hardly pick up enough. Mr Jenkins was wiser to recognize that the public and the Labour Party would now like a quick finish.

Mr Jenkins or Mr Healey, and preferably Mr Jenkins, would have been our choice to revitalize the Labour Party. Mr Jenkins has the mind of a statesman and the strongest appeal of any Labour leader to the centre vote in the country. It never seemed probable that the Labour Party in Parliament would vote for such a change at the present moment and it is not surprising that Mr Callaghan received almost as many votes as the two of them put together. Mr Healey's decision to continue the battle is a perfectly legitimate piece of strategy for him, but it seems likely to leave him at the Treasury where he is still badly needed.

Mr Callaghan has spent a long time in a very senior position in the Labour Party but in recent years without real power over central policy or events. No one who has dealt with him can doubt that he is a patriotic and responsible political leader. He is not lacking in the necessary resources of political cunning, but his tactics are not an end in themselves but a means of *getting things done*. Obviously any Labour government has to include Mr Foot, and given that *he has* led the *first* ballot he must have a senior position. A government led by Mr Callaghan with Mr Healey staying at the Exchequer and perhaps with Mr Jenkins going to the Foreign Office would be a strong government; it would enjoy confidence in the country at large and it would continue to have the confidence of the Trade Union movement. So long as Mr Healey remains at the Exchequer his economic policies will continue to be followed.

This is now the Government which seems to be emerging from the Labour leadership election, and it is surprising how *often* these elections are decided on the first ballot. It is a government that most people would want to support at least as a sound way of dealing with the present economic situation. In our view it is desirable that this government should be reached as quickly as possible. The sooner we have a new Prime Minister the better, and Mr Callaghan could be a good one.

THERE MUST BE RUSSIAN SELF-RESTRAINT

Mr Gromyko indicated at his press conference yesterday that the Soviet Union is not going to intervene in Rhodesia or southern Africa. This is an encouraging thing to say, though nobody knows what it will turn out to mean in practice. If it is really intended as some sort of assurance, *rather than* the more likely routine protestation of innocence, it suggests that the Soviet Union has got the message that it must choose between developing its relations with the United States and extending its military activities in Africa. It must, in fact, suspect this anyway, no matter how much it may insist that its own doctrine of peaceful coexistence leaves plenty of room for helping "wars of liberation" and giving *history* a *shove* in other ways.

The American interpretation of détente has always been different. As President Nixon said in his foreign policy report of May, 1974, "The classical concept of balance of power included continual manoeuvring for advantage. In the nuclear age this is both unrealistic and dangerous." In other words, détente is supposed to impose self-restraint as well as providing a framework for continuing rivalry. Mr Callaghan repeated the same message when he told Mr Gromyko in London this week that détente is indivisible.

The Russians find this difficult to accept. In their *attitude to human behaviour* they tend to assume that the only effective restraints are those imposed from outside. In their approach to foreign affairs they feel obliged both by their ideology and by their rivalry with China to demonstrate their support for revolution. In their relations with the United States they have *always* tried to see how far they can go before coming up against resistance.

In Angola they committed the Cubans because they could be practically certain that the United States Congress would block any effective response. They must now be trying to decide whether anything has changed in Washington to make them take more seriously Dr Kissinger's warnings that "the United States will not accept further Cuban military interventions abroad". So far the only price they have had to pay for Angola has been the postponement of meetings of three Soviet-American groups.

But this minor interruption in the flow of bilateral contacts is also a signal with wider significance. It could lead to further sanctions. The Russians will also have seen the clouds building up *over détente* as a whole, and President Ford's abandonment of the word itself, so that even if they feel that there is an element of bluff behind Dr Kissinger's remarks, and that the support of Congress remains doubtful, they can hardly fail to see that the threshold of serious risk is getting closer.

It is still, however, too early to relax. The Cuban troops remain in Angola and the communiqué issued after Dr Castro's recent meeting in Conakry said that "the destiny of the people of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa" is involved in the Angolan struggle. Cuban military missions are active in many places, including Somalia, Malawi, Congo - Brazzaville, *Cameroun* and Gabon. Soviet military help is flowing into Uganda. The danger remains that Dr Kissinger will be forced to show how much he can really do to back up his threats.

MAKING SENSE OF THE LAW ON OBSCENITY

The decision of the Court of Appeal in R v Staniforth and R v Jordan has brought some measure of sanity back into the law on obscenity. The relatively narrow point at issue was whether certain expert evidence could be called in support of the "public good" defence provided by the Obscene Publications Act, 1959.

The implications of the Court's judgment, however, are enormous. The evidence which the defendants in the two cases wished to call would have gone towards showing that the obscene films, books and magazines in question were for the public good because they had some therapeutic effect on sexually deviant or inadequate sections of the community. The Act allows expert evidence *to be brought* showing that the publication of obscene articlee was justified as being for the public good on the ground that "it is in the interests of science, literature, art or learning, *or of* other objects of general concern". There have been a number of cases in which, for instance, eminent literary figures have given evidence that a particular book, although in parts obscene, was exceptionally well-written, and was a work of great literary merit. That is an example of the proper use of the "public good" defence.

In the past few years, however, more and more defences have been based on that part of the provision referring to "other objects of general concern". The expert evidence called has usually been to the effect that certain kinds of people are helped psychologically and sexually, by reading obscene literature or seeing obscene films. In the trial of the publisher of *Inside Linda Lovelace*, for *instance*, no attempt was made to justify the work on grounds of literary *merit*, but a *doctor with experience* in treating patients with sexual problems testified that the book, as well as many other obscene articles, could be helpful to some people because they created masturbatory situations beneficial to them.

The logical conclusion of that argument is that every obscene article is in fact for the public good because some people will be helped by its very obscenity. Clearly this is not what Parliament intended when it provided the defence. The Court of Appeal has now laid down that, whatever the words "other objects of general concern" mean, they do not allow evidence to be called under its umbrella the effect of which would be completely to negate the purpose of the legislation. Its judgment means that the Obscene Publications Act might now be made to work as it was intended.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attitude of white Rhodesians

From Mr F. Caldeira-Saraiva

Sir, Having read your leader on Rhodesia, and being Portuguese, I could not help remembering the time, not so long ago, in which it *seemed* that the Portuguese stubbornness was all that was keeping the natives of Guinea-Bissau, *Angola* and *Mozambique* from enjoying the blessings of democracy and majority rule.

Now the Portuguese have departed, which was a good thing in itself, but in those three territories three ruthless dictatorships are firmly in control, no safeguards of freedom were obtained from the "freedom fighters" (and how could they be obtained? What guarantees did the British obtain that prevented Amin, for instance, from installing *his* dictatorship?), and the white and black populations are being oppressed, opponents being shot or shoved into concentration camps. How can we be so certain that the same cannot happen in Rhodesia, that we feel our sanctimonious duty to preach to Mr Smith the advantages of majority rule? The fact that Mr Nkomo seems to be a moderate man cannot be held, except by an extremely naive observer, to be a guarantee that democracy and freedom will prevail after the transfer of powers, so if the white Rhodesians prefer a power-sharing agreement *or even* if they would rather "fight in the fields and in the streets" than surrender and be slaughtered, it is their decision, and I for one am not going to criticize it, or them.

Yours sincerely,
F. CALDEIRA-SARAIVA,
12 Bentley Road,
Cambridge.
March 23.

From Dr H. C. G. Matthew

Sir, Land purchase has been the historic and successful agent of British *decolonization* in areas containing substantial minorities hostile to independence. A series of *land purchase Acts in Ireland, and* the land purchase scheme in Kenya, ensured the removal of most of the most reactionary of the landowners, and greatly encouraged the cooperation of the farmers in the decolonization process.

There is no doubt that an offer of land purchase to farmers must form part of any attempt by the British Government to break the Rhodesian deadlock. British negotiations on Rhodesia have hitherto been based on the assumption that Rhodesian society can remain largely unchanged under majority rule; that political change can occur without social or economic effect. This is of course absurd, as both sides in Rhodesia know, and is a chief reason for Rhodesian Front recalcitrance. Rhodesian politics are at bottom the politics of land. The Rhodesian Front is controlled by the farmers, whose assets are unmovable; the independence movement is basically a movement for peasant proprietorship or *cooperatives*.

Thus land purchase in sterling is the only offer of substance which the British Government *can* make to change the last-ditch attitude of the Rhodesian farmers. Those unwilling to be bought out would be on their own.

Land purchase would be expensive, and politically unpopular here in the short term, but no more expensive than subsidies to Mozambique, the involvement of British troops, and the consequent run on sterling.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. G. MATTHEW,
107 Southmoor Road,
Oxford.
March 23.

Unions and Parliament

From Mr Nicholas Scott, Conservative MP for Chelsea

Sir, Eric Wigham suggested in your columns of March 24 that the House of Lords might be replaced by a second industrial chamber giving the trade unions a greater say in the affairs of the country.

I agree with the aim, but would it not be better to develop the idea of the Industrial Forum, advanced *in* the Conservative Party's Manifesto of October, 1974. I envisaged this as a *body organized along the lines* of the economic and social committees which are a common feature with our partners in the European Community. Such a forum would include representatives of employers and trade unions, in each case including those not affiliated to the CBI or the TUC; and would ideally also include representation from consumer and other interests. Rather than being an integral part of the legislative process it *should* be consulted by Parliament on legislation of economic and social importance.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS SCOTT,
House of Commons.
March 24.

British Library

From Miss Olga Franklin

Sir, William Makepeace Thackeray would never have agreed with your correspondent Mr Iain Stevenson (March 22). Thackeray wrote Mr Antonio Panizzi at the British Museum on March 10, 1850, after visiting the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris that "the accommodation here is so entirely inferior to that which the British Museum gives us that comparisons are quite out of the question. If I had to write on a French subject, the French revolution for example, I would go to London for the books. . . ."

Has Mr Stevenson visited the reading room lately? I wear three cardigans because it is so cold.

Replying to your other correspondent, Mr Will Dennis (March 22), Karl Marx needed no "reference" for a *reader's ticket in 1850* because he held a PhD degree of the University of Jena for his *dissertation* on a theme of classical Greek philosophy. Ah! if only Carolus Enricus Marx, Trevirensis (of Trier) had *stuck to* Greek.

Yours respectfully,
OLGA FRANKLIN,
Church Hill,
Caterham,
Surrey.
March 22.

Maintaining university standards

From the Principal of Westfield College

Sir, The University Grant Committee's annual survey for 1974/75, on which your Education Correspondent reports in your issue of March 23, disturbingly describes the general deterioration in the basic skills of young people now entering universities; and the chairman of the UGC rightly emphasizes the particularly serious situation in mathematics.

It is very good that, at long *last*, a university body of the standing of the UGC has attached its authority to *anxieties* which have been troubling professional bodies for many years. In my own subject of mathematics, you, Sir, published an editorial as long ago as May 24, 1961, which stressed the need for immediate and drastic measures at that time to prevent a near-collapse of the subject in the schools in the 1970s. The day before, I had presented a detailed *analysis* of *the* state of mathematics teaching in a public lecture which had concluded with the words: "it is right to say that mathematics, in May, 1961, has quite possibly passed the point of no return, the point beyond which there will be a steady and irretrievable decline, on the average, in the quality of students coming into the universities (and) in the proportionate numbers of adequately-qualified teachers . . . *in schools*." In *retrospect*, one can see that that remark would have been equally valid for at least some other subjects.

Since there is no longer any doubt about the threat to high intellectual standards which is inherent in the state of many of our primary and secondary schools, there are three fundamental considerations for anyone who has it in mind to counter the threat.

First comes the question as to what priority society in general and the school system in particular is prepared to give to the needs of the *most* able *members* of the population, and to the special contributions which they can make to the welfare and prosperity of the nation as a whole as well as to the education of the next generation. It may be that we would all agree that, fifty years ago, educational resources were allocated unfairly to the advantage of that able minority, and that today's priorities are different and on the whole fairer. But there is certainly no national consensus at present on what the emphases should be in principle and how they could be manifested in practice.

Second, there is another question of priority: what weight should be given to the maintenance and development of cultural and intellectual traditions and standards through the medium of the universities? The universities, rightly or wrongly, feel that recent governments have attached too little weight to this essential function of theirs and one certainly doubts whether extra money would be available to finance a fourth undergraduate year in the event of it being necessary (as Sir Frederick Dainton suggests it might) to maintain first-degree standards. But beyond that, the streak of egalitarianism *which runs through* today's society is throwing suspicion on the validity of universities' traditional functions and we in universities need to redouble our present efforts to validate our claims on resources for the benefit of future generations.

The third, and in some ways the most practically important, point relates to the very long time-scales which are inherent in the educational system—as is demonstrated *by the accuracy* with which one was able in 1961 to predict the state of affairs in the late seventies. Even in the highly unlikely event of immediate agreement not merely on the diagnosis of any problems in our schools but also on remedies, one would have to wait for the 1990s before there was any noticeable effect within the professions. This is at once depressing and heartening. Depressing because it means that things are going to get touch worse (in the UGC *sense*) before they get better. Heartening because a year or two now will make little difference in the long run, and because a deliberate search for long-term solutions is evidently more profitable than instant short-term adjustments.

Given, then, that there is a problem of quality in education, the practical attack on it is probably best undertaken subject by subject. The Arts and the Sciences display very different facets. For mathematics, which seems central to so many other disciplines, the way ahead seems to me *to lie in a much* clearer definition of minimum attainments for various ability *groups* at *various* ages and of minimum mathematical qualifications for teachers corresponding to the pupil groups. And it is towards this goal that I, as a past President of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, and other colleagues within the institute are now beginning to work, so that we may contribute to the much wider investigations which the UGC's remarks should stimulate.

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN THWAITES, Principal,
Westfield College,
University of London,
Kidderpore Avenue, NW3.
March 23.

Freeing the council house serfs

From Mr Henry Aughton

Sir, Your leader "*Freeing* the Council Serfs" (March 23) goes to the heart of the matter when it says that "the publicly owned housing stock is an inestimable economic asset", and goes on to point out that "the opportunity to even out the cost of new building in expensive areas by cross-subsidy from council housing in more fortunate parts of the country has never been sufficiently investigated, and would be lost for ever under a policy of total dispersal".

It is not sufficiently realized that the public rented sector is unique in its provision of the institutions by which this already operates within each individual housing area, through the universal practice of rent pooling, and could, with no particular difficulty, operate nation*ally by way* of a *suitable* (and much simpler than the present) subsidy system.

This *cross-subsidizing within* each authority's area is the reason why recently built houses can still be let at *reasonable rents*, the *very* low historic cost earlier houses sharing the burden of recently built *high-cost* houses. The loss of this facility would be a social and economic calamity. But varying circumstances (little or no building in one area, a large programme in another, very much higher costs in some regions than others) are not *adequately* catered for *by* the present subsidy structure, and they ought to be.

Mr Field is *right in* one *thing*—tenancy of a council house ties a man to his immediate neighbourhood almost as effectively as serfs were tied to the land in earlier days; and so does tenancy of a rent-controlled house. Nothing less than an adequate supply of rented accommodation will resolve this problem of mobility, and make it possible for the family man to take his industrial skills to where the work is. There is no prospect of any but the public sector making good this deficit.

It is an illusion to imagine, as the Building *Society Association* appears to do in its evidence to the Crosland committee, that selling council *houses* and diverting the resources of the building industry towards building for sale *is* all that is *necessary*.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY AUGHTON,
Housing Consultant, National Housing and Town Planning Council,
34 Junction Road, Archway, N19.
March 24.

Catholic archbishops

From the Reverend Laurence F. Allan

Sir, Clifford Longley's Profile of the new Archbishop of Westminster (March 22) had a brief introduction curtly dismissing the influence of the first seven Archbishops: in particular—even allowing for the need of compression—he does less than justice to Wiseman and *Manning*.

In Wiseman's case, only his "tactless", "extravagant and insensitive" Flaminian Gate Pastoral *is* mentioned: the impact of his "Appeal to the English people", which followed as soon as he realized the effect of the Pastoral, is ignored. His later prestige, even among those who were not his co-religionists, was seen at his funeral: *The Times* of the day, which had been to the forefront of the *attack* on "*Papal* Aggression", said, inter alia, that the same interest had not been shown since the funeral of Wellington and that the public wished "to tender respect to his memory as an eminent Englishman and one of the most learned men of his time".

As to Manning, to mention only his reference to the temporal power of the Papacy and to limit comment to saying that it is kinder not to call him a bigot betray a lack of historical perspective most unusual in *The Times* of today. Cardinal Manning was prominent in many of the social and philanthropic movements of the time, sat on Royal Commissions, was accorded a special precedence after that of the Prince of Wales and helped to settle the dock *strike* of *1889*. *His* work in establishing schools for the poor was prolific, his influence with the labour *leaders* of *his* day was immense, he played a part in inspiring the social encyclicals of Pope Leo XIII. His funeral, too, showed the great respect and affection which his fellow countrymen from all walks of life had for him.

Enthusiasm for the appointment of Archbishop Hume—which we all share—should not lead Clifford Longley to denigrate his predecessors.

Yours, etc,
LAURENCE F. ALLAN,
The Presbytery,
22 Boniface Walk, Headstone Lane,
Harrow, Middlesex.
March 24.

EEC customs ritual

From Mr John Raven

Sir, The experience of Signor Libero delle Briotta, who, as noted in your issue of March 16, had to cope with a "dispatch note to be completed *six times* (which *required* him to give about 100 separate items of information), an export declaration to be completed in triplicate (which required him to give *40 different items of information*) and another customs declaration with 38 different boxes to be filled in" in order to send a small piece of modern furniture from Italy to Luxembourg, should be *studied* in the context of Sir Christopher Soames's recent rhetorical question "Is the European Community to remain at the level of a customs union or is a genuine European union to be developed?"

We—and Signor Briotta—should be so lucky. *Nineteen seventy-seven* is the year in which British courtship of the European ideal can constitutionally expect the modest consummation of a customs union. There should then be an absolute end to the nonsense encountered by Signor Briotta.

Will there be? Or will the same old customs officials with the same old uniforms be holding up our supposed-to-be-enfranchized goods at the same old frontiers by demanding a mass of paper-embalmed information which costs the poor trader at least as much to produce and process as a wicked old-fashioned 7 to 10 per cent tariff.

Anyone who would like to resolve this conundrum—and, incidentally, to enlarge his insight into the vanity of human wishes—is recommended to station himself at any convenient intra-community frontier at dawn on January 1 next year.

Yours, etc,
JOHN RAVEN,
The Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
March 16.

A motorway in the Darenth valley

From Mr Geoffrey Grigson

Sir, By a peculiar chance, seeing how near *it is* to London, the Darenth valley through Eynsford Lullingstone, Shoreham and Otford *and the bordering chalk hills and* woods has remained much as it was when Samuel Palmer and his *friends painted* there a *hundred* and fifty years ago. M25, the London Outer Orbital road, is now promising to destroy that exceptional loveliness.

For its lioking stretch, between Swanley and Sevenoaks, three routes are proposed. All three come close to the old trees of Lullingstone Park, closer still to the Darenth and Shoreham village. All three would cut through woods which are part of the charm of this Shoreham neighbourhood. The eastern route—also the shortest and cheapest and I suppose the likeliest to be chosen—would bring the six-lane motorway within a mile of Shoreham village.

Perhaps it would be sentimental to cry Earth-shifters away! on account of Samuel Palmer. But then Palmer worked at Shoreham because he *recognized there* a natural landscape of extraordinary happiness. Shouldn't we preserve that today much rarer and so even more valuable excellence, honouring as we do so the painter who turned his impressions of it into works of art which are now nationally and internationally admired?

The Department of the Environment has issued a pamphlet asking the public which of the three routes they prefer. A good, clear pamphlet, except that it says nothing of Shoreham and *its* peace and its painter. Is it impossible to find a *route which will interfere less with* Palmer's "valley of vision" which is still a valley of vision for those *who live in it and come to see it*? The valley in which Palmer "beheld, as in the spirit", glimpses of "the perfumed and enchanted twilight", and where he saw, in his own poem, the golden day

On cornfields rip'ning in the sun
Up the side of some great hill
Ere the sickle has begun?

It would be ironic to collate the night-and-day rumble of a completed M25 with the silence in which Palmer's full moons have so long looked down—to quote Palmer again—at this village where "All is safe, and all is still".

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY GRIGSON.
Broad Town,
Wiltshire.
March 23.

Privacy and the press

From the Editor of The Sun

Sir, In your recent evidence to the Royal Commission on the Press, you were *kind* enough specifically to exclude *The Sun* from your general criticism of "scandal-*mongering*" *on the part of* popular newspapers.

It seems a pity, therefore, that the report of your evidence which appeared in your columns was less generous, and tarred us all, in effect, with the same brush.

I am sure your readers would like to know that this was not your intention.

Yours faithfully,
LARRY LAMB, Editor,
The Sun,
30 Bouverie Street,
Fleet Street, EC4.
March 25.

Tax relief for commuters

From Miss Joyce Dobbs

Sir, Mr Widgery (March 16) and Mr Grant *(March 24)* both have it all wrong. The former apparently wants tax relief only on commuting by public transport; the latter *says* nobody travels far to work "unless they choose". Each discounts the realities of counties like Cumbria, where terrain is difficult and big areas have no public transport, so that private transport is essential for outlying non-agricultural workers whose only employment opportunities are in the towns. The towns are not large enough to house everyone who needs (not "chooses") to work in them; add the imminent further curtailment of rural public transport throughout Britain, and it is obvious that Mr Widgery and Mr Grant lack objectivity in their argument.

Yours faithfully,
JOYCE DOBBS,
5 Eastgate,
Kendal,
Cumbria.

Government advertisement

From Mr Arnold Hawker

Sir, The illustration of the tearing of a legal document *in the current* "Notice to Quit" advertisement appearing in the national press and paid for at our expense by the Department of the Environment is offensive in many ways—not least in its incitement to destroy.

What would the Chancellor's reaction be to a similar illustration at the head of an advertisement by, say, a body of taxation advisers suggesting that our income tax demands were not worth the paper they were *written on*?

I cannot help but feel the ministers of the present Government have got *their senses* of proportion all wrong. We are basically a law-abiding nation, and subject to fair and understandable legislation do not wish to be provoked by emotive publicity to action we could well regret in retrospect.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. HAWKER,
Ten Oatlands Close,
Weybridge,
Surrey.
March 22.

'Dear Reverend'

From the Bishop of Repton

Sir, His Honour Judge Irvine is not alone in having his sex changed by letter (*March 25*). The Gas Board have just stopped addressing me as Archbishop and simply begin "Dear Grace".

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your obedient servant,
† WARREN REPTON,
Underwood, Baslow Road,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire.

Managing water resources

From Mr D. L. Rydz

Sir, We are now told, a mere two years after reorganization, of the need for a national water authority with power to plan resources. That it ought to *have* been, and to some people was, manifest at the time of reorganization. The abolition, *then*, of the Water Resources Board was a perverse and foolish decision. During its brief existence of about nine *years* the board made solid and effective contributions to the planning of water resources. It provided the strategy upon which the industry has since drawn and it played a large part in conceiving the comprehensive regional water authorities—an important development in the history of the water industry. It was ironic that the introduction of these authorities was accompanied by the suppression of the one *agency capable* of giving them cohesion and strategic direction.

It *is* to be *hoped that* the Secretary of State will produce promptly proposals to revive the board or to institute some *equally effective* agency.

Yours faithfully,
D. L. RYDZ,
Ambergate Drive,
Birstall,
Leicester.

Cycling in London

From the Chairman of the GLC South Area Board

Sir, Dr Williams's timely reminder (Letters, March 23) of the many advantages of cycling in towns and cities is a *little too pessimistic* in stating that "this machine is still blatantly ignored by the planners". *This is definitely not* the case in the Greater London Council; we are aware of the needs of cyclists, *especially* their safety, and we are determined to do something about it.

To this end it is our policy to encourage *and assist* the London borough councils to produce cycle route networks using, in the main, *lightly trafficked* side streets. The GLC, in turn, will ensure safe crossing points at main roads and giving cyclists exemption in many road closures. A number of councils are already working on this. The most advanced is the London Borough of Wandsworth, and in co-operation with them we intend to introduce a demonstration project of a seven-mile network in a year's time. If successful, this can be *extended elsewhere*.

As well as providing a safe alternative to cycle journeys now made on busy main roads, we hope that such a network will be able to provide mobility for people who do not have access to a car. With better facilities for cycling many people, who are now persuaded by the attractions of cycling but are deterred by today's traffic volumes, will be given the option of using this excellent but neglected *form* of transport.

Yours faithfully,
LILIAS GILLIES,
Room 135,
The County Hall, SE1.
March 24.

Student theatre-goers

From Mr Barry Sheppard

Sir, There are several reasons for offering privileged prices to student theatre-goers (National Theatre tickets, letters March 23), including that of making it possible, economically, for students to form part of our audiences. It is not my wish, however, to enter the debate on *the level of student grants*, but to suggest what is to my mind the paramount justification for such concessions.

It is from the present student population that many of our future actors, writers and directors will emerge. If they are not encouraged at this stage to visit the theatre as frequently as possible some will never experience that mystical moment—probably unrecognized at the time—which determines their future vocation and others will not get the breadth of experience which helps them to crystallize their own ideas and develop new ones. They may choose to reject current theatrical criteria, but at least their rebellion will be based on practical knowledge.

Having spent much of my professional life in university theatres, where professional and student companies meet regularly under working conditions, I have occasionally toyed with the idea of replacing student concessions with a surcharge for non-students!

Yours faithfully,
BARRY SHEPPARD,
Administrator,
Oxford Playhouse,
The University Theatre,
Beaumont Street, Oxford.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 25: His Excellency Sir John and Lady Carter were received in farewell audience by The Queen this morning and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as High Commissioner for Guyana in London.

His Excellency Monsieur Phatthana Choumlamany was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the People's Democratic Republic of Laos to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to The Queen: Monsieur Rounthanavong Kanlagna (First Secretary).

Sir Michael Palliser (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by The Queen, was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Donald Tebbit was received in audience by Her Majesty upon his appointment as British High Commissioner in Australia.

Lady Tebbit had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Miss Sheila Munro had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and took leave upon her retirement from service in the Royal Household as Assistant Chief Clerk, Private Secretary's Office.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the National Playing Fields Association, this evening attended a Charity Greyhound Race Meeting at the White City in aid of the Association.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 25: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon opened the new wing of Brinsworth House, the Entertainment Artistes' Benevolent Fund's Home at Twickenham.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Captain Alastair Aird were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 25: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, as President, this morning attended a meeting of the Ladies Guild of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem at No 1 Grosvenor Crescent. In the afternoon Her Royal Highness, President, visited Princess Helena College, Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, as President of the London Region of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, attended a Fashion Show at the Thomas Coram Foundation, Brunswick Square, London WC1.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
March 25: The Duke of Kent, as President, this afternoon attended the Annual General Meeting at King Edward VII Hospital for Officers, Beaumont Street, W1.

The Hon Mrs J. Evans-Freke gave birth to a son last Monday.

Buckingham Palace luncheon

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday held a luncheon party at Buckingham Palace. The guests were:
Miss Margaret Maden (headmistress, Islington Green School), Mr Richard Briers (actor), Mr John Letts (chairman, National Heritage), Mr James Mortimer (chairman, Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service), Dr Ernst Schumacher (chairman, Intermediate Technology Development Group), Mr Michael Smith (manager, Welsh Football Association Senior Soccer Team), Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Slopford (Commanding Officer, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys)) and Sir Meredith Whittaker (chairman, Association of County Councils).

Marriages

Mr A. M. D. Havelock-Allan and Miss L. C. Mitchell-Innes
The marriage took place at the Temple Church yesterday between Mr Anthony Mark David Havelock-Allan, son of Sir Anthony Havelock-Allan, of Via Nicolo Porpora 16, Rome, and of Mrs John Profumo, and Miss Lucy Clare Mitchell-Innes, daughter of Mr A. P. Mitchell-Innes and the late Mrs Mitchell-Innes, of Kitchers, Albury, Hertfordshire. The Master of the Temple and the Rev James Mitchell-Innes took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Edward Mitchell-Innes and Kate Spicer. Mr David Profumo was best man.

A reception was held at the Savoy Hotel and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr C. G. Thin and Miss C. de Gara
The marriage took place yesterday, at St Simon Zelotes, Milner Street, Chelsea, between Mr Christopher Gordon Thin, son of Mrs Peter Thin, and Miss Carole de Gara, daughter of Mr and Mrs T. L. de Gara.

A reception was held at 30 Pavilion Road.

Birthdays today

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, 71; Mr Pierre Boulez, 51; Sir Frederick Bovenschen, 92; Sir Arthur Bruce, 81; Dr James B. Conant, 83; Mr W. J. Edrich, 60; Mr Thomas C. Fairbairn, 102; Lord Fletcher, 73; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, 62; Dr Kenneth Mellanby, 68; Sir Leslie Melville, 74; Sir Sidney Ridley, 74; Sir Kenneth Wheare, 69; Mr Tennessee Williams, 65.

Archbishop pleads for unity by churches

The following address was given by the Archbishop of Westminster in Westminster Abbey after the singing of Latin Vespers last night:

It is always good to be with one's monastic brethren to sing the praises of God. How grateful we all are to you and to the Chapter for making it possible for us to sing Vespers with you. Thank you.

You invited us because you appreciate, our English monastic heritage. Westminster is an important part of the monastic history of these islands, and of very special significance for the English Benedictine Congregation.

This present moment has a further significance in that we have among us our Abbot Primate, the Right Rev Rembert Weakland, the Abbot President of the English Congregation, the Right Rev Victor Farwell, Abbot of Worth Abbey, and the titular Abbot of Westminster, the Right Rev Herbert Byrne, former Abbot of Ampleforth. We have also shared these Vespers with our Anglican Benedictine brothers from the community of Nashdom.

We have been at prayer together and when two or three are gathered in His name there He is in our midst. His prayer is, surely, at this moment "that we may all be one; that they too may be one in us, as Thou Father art in me and I in thee; so that the world may come to believe that it is thou who has sent me" (John XVII, 21-23).

An individual, to some extent at least, is a creature wounded by his or her past. Wounds heal only with time and patience. The same is true of communities and institutions. They too, can be wounded by their past and the scars take a long time to disappear.

Our two churches give proof of this. Our wounds are ancient; the healing is slow. We have been, I think, like two sisters, estranged, not on speaking terms, quarrelsome, misunderstanding each other.

There are many tombs in this Abbey, but there is one which speaks, if we would listen, with a poignant, indeed tragic, eloquence. It is the tomb which contains the remains of two sisters, Elizabeth and Mary. Read there, the inscription: "Consorts both in throne and grave, here we rest, two sisters, Elizabeth and Mary in the hope of one resurrection."

Think of them as you will, judge them as you will, but pass on in your mind to the last phrase, "in the hope of one resurrection". New life springs up out of death. The sister churches can now look back on a past that is dead and buried. We can look forward to new life, to new hope and in God's time to the goal of Christian unity. Already in the last decade we have seen much achieved to reunite the two sister churches. One voice has, most movingly and significantly, given expression to the new life that can be. It is a voice which expresses too at the deepest level, the meaning of the death suffered by so many courageous men and women in the defence of their faith. That voice was the voice of Pope Paul VI, and the occasion was the canonization of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales on October 25, 1970.

"May the blood of these martyrs be able to heal the great wound inflicted upon God's Church by reason of the separation of the Anglican Church from the Catholic Church ... there will be no seeking [the Holy Father went on] to lessen the legitimate prestige and the worthy patrimony of piety and usage proper to the Anglican Church when the Roman Catholic Church, this humble 'Servant of the servants of God', is able to embrace her ever beloved sister in the one authentic communion of the family of Christ."

Those were bold and inspiring words, coming from the highest authority in our Church.

Allow me to make two points: First, we shall not respond to Christ's prayer for unity unless our churches are praying churches. We must discuss, we must have commissions, we must act together, but none of this will be of any avail unless we pray, and pray earnestly.

Secondly, we must yield to the claims and demands made by the truth. Ours must not be the weak, helpless, indeed almost cynical response of Pontius Pilate, "What is truth?" but it must be a courageous, relentless and honest search for what is the truth about God and his purposes for man, ultimately for Him who is the "Way, the Truth and the Life". I have spoken in a great church of the Anglican communion, but the Catholic church wishes to speak and to listen to all churches, to all men of every religion or of none, for the good of us all and to the greater glory of God whose praises we have been privileged to sing in this Abbey.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. J. Brown and Mrs J. M. Lingwood
The engagement is announced, and the marriage will take place in Crete, on April 24, between Marshall John Brown, of Eatonton, Georgia, United States, and June Mary Lingwood, of Merton Park, London.

Mr J. P. Harding and Miss M. Takahashi
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Paul Harding, of Dottrell Hall, Heydon, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Lester Cole, of Merrydowns, Arkesden, Essex, and Mimi, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs F. Takahashi, of Tochigi-Ken, Japan.

Mr N. I. P. Henton and Miss W. V. Bray
The engagement is announced between Nigel Ian Plenderleith Henton, only son of Lieutenant-Commander A. I. P. Henton, Royal Navy, and Mrs Henton, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Wendy Valerie, second daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Bray, of Coulsdon, Surrey.

Mr G. A. Howles and Miss K. A. Harvey
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Howles, of Egerton Crescent, London, and Katharine, younger daughter of the late Mr Peter V. Harvey and Mrs J. J. Pytches, and stepdaughter of Mr J. J. Pytches, of The Yews, South Road, Taunton.

Mr M. Makey and Miss M. A. Hosking
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jack Makey, of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, and Mary Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Hosking, of Lower Bowcombe, Ivybridge, South Devon.

Mr C. T. J. Mitchell and Miss C. E. H. Grealey
The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs C. O. Mitchell, of Hall Farm House, Benacre, Suffolk, and Christina, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs L. A. Grealey, of Wimbledon.

Mr I. J. S. Murray and Miss A. N. Marshall
The engagement is announced between Iain James Stuart, younger son of Mr Cecil Murray and the late Mrs Bona Murray, of Comrie, Perthshire, and Amanda Neild, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Marshall, of 63 Ovenhouse Street, Chelsea, London, SW3.

Mr G. M. Norris and Miss G. F. J. Wynn
The engagement is announced between Guy, younger son of the late Mr R. A. Norris and Mrs Norris, of Bath, Avon, and Gay, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H. F. T. Wynn, of Lodsworth, Sussex.

Mr J. F. Whigham and Miss C. A. Nind
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Francis, son of Mr Francis Whigham, of Oakwood Court, London and Mrs Wigham, and Charlotte Allardice, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Nind, of Abinger Common, Surrey.

Mr V. P. White and Miss J. V. Hillyer
The engagement is announced between Vernon, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. F. White, of Haslemere, Surrey, and Joy, only daughter of the Rev N. and Mrs Ruth Hillyer, of Silbury House, Avebury, Wiltshire.

Service dinners

Royal Green Jackets
The annual dinner of The Royal Green Jackets was held last night at Claridge's hotel. General Sir Thomas Pearson presided and the guests were:
Brigadier P. F. A. Sibbald, Lieutenant-Colonel T. O. G. Quayle, Major M. H. McMurray, Major A. J. Read, Captain N. W. Puddicombe, Mr R. R. Brickell and Mr A. B. T. Hormaot.

HQ 11 Group
Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, AOC-in-C RAF Strike Command, was the guest of honour at dinner yesterday evening in the officers' mess, RAF Bentley Priory, on the occasion of his impending retirement. Others present included Air Chief Marshal Sir Frederick Rosier and Air Commodore A. C. Deere. Air Vice-Marshal W. Harbison presided.

Phillips are to auction this Charles II two-handled silver gilt cup and cover, weighing 24oz and marked LA., in London today.

£1m flood of vintage claret is uncorked in London

By Philip Howard

The biggest flood of vintage claret ever to flow through muddy London was uncorked yesterday as Christie's opened what was claimed as the biggest sale of fine Bordeaux wine since ancient Greek colonists first set foot on grape in southern France.

By tonight more than 30,000 cases of château-bottled red and white Bordeaux in bottles, half bottles, and magnums will have been offered in the two-day sale, and will probably have fetched nearly £1m. The sharpest dealers, most discriminating palates, and reddest noses in the trade from all over Europe and as far afield as Hongkong and Australia gathered in Quaglino's ballroom for the sale.

They had been attracted by the innovation of presale tastings in Geneva, Amsterdam and Paris, as well as London. There was a surprisingly strong contingent from the United States, bidding as thirstily as if Prohibition was about to be brought back. That was surprising, because American cellars are believed to be filled to the ceiling with claret they bought in the boom years.

The claret comes from A. Delor et Cie, one of the big five companies of Bordeaux. It is selling to release capital tied up in fine vintage wine and needed to finance new stocks of generic and young wines.

Mr Michael Broadbent, head of Christie's wine department, said: "Prices have improved considerably since last year. The minor wines are selling comfortably 10 and 15 per cent above recent prices. And the first growths, whose prices dropped by about half in the autumn of 1974, are creeping up towards that figure again."

In an appropriate atmosphere of cathedralic reverence for the queen of wines, with pictures of the great coâteaux of Bordeaux on the walls, the congregation of wine-worshippers sighed as the top prices of the day went to the supreme sites of Haut Médoc.

The top price of the day was £330 a case with premium for Château Lafite-Rothschild 1953, not reckoned one of the good vintages, from the 300 acres that Baron James de Rothschild bought from the Vanderberghe family in 1868. *Magnums of 1959 Lafite*, a good vintage, went for £275 a case; and 1955 Lafite, another good vintage, for £253 a case. One of those bibulous old wine's tales beloved by the trade asserts that the wines of Lafite almost always outlive the men who buy them for their cellars.

The first day fetched a total of £478,500, with fewer than ten of the 1,376 lots bought in. The flood of claret continues today, with the dealers prophesying hopefully that the trade will have a wine-feast, all private buyers having been scared away by yesterday's high prices.

A sale of Old Master engravings, etchings, and woodcuts at Sotheby's fetched £151,917, with 2 per cent bought *in*. The top price of £39,300, half above estimate, was given for Goya's "La Tauromaquia", the set of 33 plates in the first edition of 1816, with fine impressions of his aquatint etchings of bullfighting scenes.

Phillips held their first sale in Australia yesterday. It realized a successful total of 110,000 Australian dollars (about £69,000) for Dr Nicolai Savov-Sonbotian's private collection of furniture, paintings and Persian works of art and carpets. A village scene, with peasants dancing and feasting outside an inn, by David Teniers the Younger, made 16,000 dollars (about £10,000).

New town idea to be phased out

By John Young
Planning Reporter

No more new towns are likely to be designated in Britain, at any rate on the present pattern. The existing 28 towns will be allowed to proceed with their expansion plans, with the possible exception of Central Lancashire, but otherwise the emphasis of the last 30 years on creating artificial "growth points" is expected to be abandoned.

There are a number of reasons for the change in government thinking. The population is now showing signs of stabilizing, if not declining; resistance is increasing to the further loss of agricultural land; and the larger cities are less concerned with getting rid of overspill than with their own economic decline.

But the most important reason is the realization that the essential investment in new industry to support the housing estates is unlikely to be forthcoming. Several new towns are having severe difficulties in attracting employment. Even the more successful towns, like Irvine, in Scotland, which has been staging a promotional exhibition in London this week, concede that they are going through a bad patch.

Many planners are arguing that industry should be allowed to gravitate to areas of its own choosing, and that government resources should be directed exclusively to regions of severe decline and unemployment.

That is to some extent reflected in the Government's acceptance of the various regional strategic plans which forecast that natural growth is likely to be concentrated in the South-east, the *South-west and East Anglia*.

One idea being canvassed within the Conservative Party is for a partnership, on the French pattern, between private enterprise and local authorities in joint development companies. Such partnerships, it is felt, would offer the best chance of easing the difficulties of areas like the London docklands.

But that idea is unlikely to be popular with the Labour Party, which has never been altogether happy about the powers delegated to the development corporations.

Under a Bill before Parliament, many corporation-owned houses are to be transferred to local authorities, and Mr Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, clearly feels that it is time more of the older corporations were wound up.

The Town and Country Planning Association, which has long been a staunch advocate of new towns, is now soft-pedalling on the need for any more. Launching an appeal yesterday for £75,000, Mr Maurice Ash, the association's chairman, placed the emphasis on environmental education and the expansion of planning aid.

Dam poses threat to island nature reserve

By a Staff Reporter

Fears have been expressed for the future of Steep Holm, the 50-acre island nature reserve in the middle of the Bristol Channel, purchased as a memorial to the broadcaster, author and naturalist, Kenneth Allsop. Plans for a dam across the channel show a breakwater with the island at the centre.

Mr Rodney Legg, secretary of the Kenneth Allsop Memorial Trust, said the Department of Energy's plans for tidal schemes meant that Steep Holm would not only cease to be an island but would become the junction for a whole series of concrete dams.

"It is the proposed centrepiece for the entire scheme. Environmentally and visually, Steep Holm stands to lose everything."

The trust has asked the department to see a deputation before anything is finalized.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr A. K. Rothnie to be Ambassador to Switzerland in succession to Sir John Wraight, who is retiring.

Professor Huw Morris-Jones, of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, to be a member of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, making Wales his special care.

Mr A. F. Vyvyan-Robinson, headmaster of the Royal Masonic School, Bushey, to be headmaster of Woodbridge School from September.

Mrs Anne Kaye, senior mistress at Princess Helena College, Hertfordshire, to be headmistress of Bedford High School for Girls from September, on the retirement of Miss E. K. Wallen.

Today's engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visit Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, 12.

Princess Alexandra attends annual *reception given* by *chairman of* Three Rivers District Council, Watersmeet, Rickmansworth, 7.45.

Exhibition: Michelangelo Madonna and other collected treasure, Royal Academy, Piccadilly, 10—6.

Gallery talk: Costume 1814-1914, by Frances Musker, Victoria and Albert Museum, 2.30.

Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, Olympia, 10—9.

Royal Geographical Society awards

The Royal Geographical Society announces the following awards for 1976:

FOUNDER'S MEDAL: Dr B. B. Roberts, head of polar regions section, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, for polar exploration and contributions to Antarctic research and political negotiation.
PATRON'S MEDAL: Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Irving, for services as Hydrographer of the Navy and encouragement of exploration.
VICTORIA MEDAL: Professor J. N. Jennings, Australian National University, Canberra, for contributions to geomorphology and geographical research, and education.
BUSK MEDAL: Dr A. H. S. Stride, Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, for exploration of the sea floor.
MURCHISON AWARD: Professor Emeritus W. G. Hoskins, formerly Hatton Professor of English History, Leicester University, for contributions to historical geography and landscape in England.
BACK AWARD: Dr Keith Miller, Trinity College, Cambridge, for explorations in Greenland and improvement of field instruments.
PEEK AWARD: Professor J. K. St Joseph, Cambridge University, for studies of the landscape and topography in Britain through aerial reconnaissance.
GILL MEMORIAL: Professor M. J. Kirkby, Leeds University, for studies of the mechanics of soil movements.
NESS AWARD: Squadron Leader T. H. Sheppard, for expeditions in the Sahara and contributions to desert navigation.
KEARTON MEDAL AND AWARD: Dr Pamela Harrison, for bird and wild life photography.
HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: Professor H. C. Darby, for contributions to historical geography and in particular for the "Domesday Geography of England".

25 years ago

From The Times of Tuesday, March 27, 1951.

The closed shops

From Our Special Correspondent

Llandudno, March 26.—Prolonged applause, during which the entire gathering of 2,500 delegates to the annual conference of the National Union of Teachers rose to its feet, greeted the statement by the general secretary, Mr Ronald Gould, that the union would admit no deviation from the principle of unflinching opposition to Durham County Council's closed shop policy.

Mr Gould told the *conference* that while the Durham County Council had refrained from carrying out its threat to dismiss all its employees who failed to satisfy the council that they were members of a trade union or professional organization, during the past few weeks a more odious form of pressure had been applied to individual teachers seeking appointments who were being interrogated about union membership. He was proud to say that Durham teachers were united in viewing with abhorrence this infringement of personal liberties and violation of professional self-respect.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Reg Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, was host at a luncheon yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of M Claude Cheysson, Member of the European Commission with special responsibilities for development policy, budgets and financial control.

Ministry of Defence
The United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff, Field Marshal Sir Michael Carver, Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral Sir Edward Ashmore, Chief of the Naval Staff, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Humphrey, Chief of the Air Staff, were hosts yesterday at a luncheon given at *Admiralty* House in honour of General G. A. L. Méry, Chief of Defence Staff, France. Others present were:
The French Ambassador, Rear-Admiral P. Fionic, Captain C. Brac de la Perrière, French Navy, Vice-Admiral Sir H. C. Leach, Lieutenant-General Sir William Scotter, Mr A. H. Campbell, Mr A. P. Hockaday and Rear-Admiral C. R. P. C. Branson.

Portsoken Ward Club
The annual luncheon of Portsoken Ward Club to meet the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress and Mr Sheriff and Mrs Hedderwick, was held in the Painters' Hall yesterday. The civic toast was proposed by Miss Dulcie Gray. Those present included:
Mr Michael Denison, Mr George Pollack, president, Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen, Alderman of the ward, the Master of the Painter-Stainers' Company, aldermen of the City of London, past and present officers of the GLC and members of the ward club and their ladies.

Reception

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister and Mrs Wilson were hosts at a reception at 10 Downing Street yesterday in honour of delegates from overseas attending the twenty-fifth parliamentary seminar of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

Dinners

City of London Solicitors' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies, was among the speakers at the ladies' dinner of the City of London Solicitors' Company held yesterday evening at the Mansion House. The Master, Master Chamberlain, was in the chair and Sir Alec Clegg and Mr H. W. Higginson also spoke. Others present included:
The Master of the Rolls and Lady Denning, Sir George Baker, Lord Justice and Lady Buckley, Mr Justice and Lady Templeman, Mr Justice and Lady Slade, Lady Clegg, Major-General and Mrs W. D. M. Raeburn, the Master of the Grocers' Company and Mrs Post, the Senior Warden of the Cutlers' Company and Mrs Ioms, the President of the Law Society and Mrs Liggins, Mr and Mrs S. H. F. Fehr, Mr and Mrs J. P. Grenside, Mr and Mrs R. K. Will, and Mr and Mrs D. Gordon.

National Liberal Club
The political and economic circle of the National Liberal Club gave a dinner last night for Mr William Whitelaw, MP. Mr Leonard Smith, chairman of the club, presided.

Gardeners' Company
The Gardeners' Company held a court dinner at Cutlers' Hall yesterday evening. The Master, Mr O. M. H. Longman, presided and received the guests with the Upper Warden, Mr C. R. Crosse, and the Renter Warden, Mr J. L. Brunel Cohen. Alderman Alan Lamboll, the Master, Mr W. P. Maclagan and Viscount Blakenham were the speakers. Among others present were:
The Lord Mayor of Belfast, the Master of the Plaisterers' Company, Mr A. E. Smith and Mr J. R. Cowell.

Anglo-Venezuelan Society
Under the presidency of the Venezuelan Ambassador and the chairmanship of Mr Leopold de Rothschild, the newly formed Anglo-Venezuelan Society held a dinner, its first official function, in honour of General Rafael Alfonzo Ravard, president of Petroven, at the Savoy Hotel last night. Among others present were:
Viscount Eccles, Lord Kearton, Sir Lees Mayall, Mr Ben Ford, MP, Dr E. Leal, Dr Luis Eloy Añez, Lic José M. Quintana, Mr Hugh Carless, Mr J. D. A. Evans, Mr K. Wetherell and Mr T. J. Tice.

Anglo-Israel Association
The Anglo-Israel Association held its annual dinner at the Dorchester hotel last night. The speakers were the Hon Sir Marcus Sieff and General Ezer Weizman. The association's president, Baroness Elliot of Harwood, was in the chair and a vote of thanks was proposed by Sir Bernard Ledwidge. The Israeli Ambassador and Mrs Rafael headed a list of some 260 members of the association and their guests.

OBITUARY

MR E. H. SHEPARD

Illustrator of Winnie-the-Pooh

Mr E. H. Shepard, OBE, MC, the illustrator and artist, died on March 24 at the age of 96. He was perhaps the best-loved illustrator of children's books since Sir John Tenniel. Like Tenniel's illustrations for *Alice in Wonderland*, his drawings for the Winnie-the-Pooh books, *The Wind in the Willows* and Richard Jefferies's *Bevis, the Story of a Boy*, have become the canonical ones; it seems almost an impertinence for later draughtsmen to attempt rival versions. Shepard's unpretentious yet masterly sketches of Pooh, Piglet, Ratty, Toad, Bevis and Mark have established an unrockable public image of those characters. Even Arthur Rackham, illustrating *The Wind in the Willows* in 1940, could not oust Shepard's version of 1931.

In some cases, Shepard's illustrations superseded those of other distinguished artists: *The Wind in the Willows* had been illustrated by Paul Bransom (1913), Nancy Barnhart (1922) and Wyndham Payne (1927), while Bevis had been tricked out with colour plates by Harry Rountree in 1913, 19 years before Shepard's version. It is a measure of Shepard's success that the earlier illustrations have been ignored in modern editions in favour of his.

With the Pooh stories, he was invited to be the first illustrator; and the Pooh drawings were his greatest triumph, perhaps because his own humane and unassuming genius was so much in harmony with the tender facetiousness of his fellow-contributor to *Punch*, A. A. Milne. In 1968, at the age of 88, Shepard had the pleasure of knowing that his drawing of the "Pooh-party" had been sold at Sotheby's for £1,200.

Later his drawings were to fetch even more and in the following year he was given a full exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Ernest Howard Shepard was born in St John's Wood on December 10, 1879. His father, Henry Dunkin Shepard, was an architect; his mother a daughter of William Lee, the watercolourist. Shepard *early became* an accomplished draughtsman: in his first volume of autobiography, *Drawn from Memory* (1957), he illustrated a drawing he had made of three of his aunts in 1888 and an earlier drawing of a fire-engine, almost Lautrecian in its precocity, of 1886.

His parents were friends of Sir Frank Dicksee, who became President of the Royal Academy. Before sending-in day at the Academy, the Shepards would take their children to Show Sunday at Dicksee's studio where, on one occasion, Shepard's mother pointed out Browning to him—"he had white hair, a white beard, and a florid face, and obviously I was in his way".

In 1890 his mother died. He later wrote: "It was years before the cloud seemed to lift and the natural buoyancy and happiness of youth revived itself in me." Meanwhile, he and his brother were looked after by the aunts he had caricatured in 1888.

Soon after this bereavement, Shepard's father bought a studio in Gower Street above an artist's colourman's shop. Shepard spent hours there, drawing from a plaster cast of the Venus de Milo. He was educated at St Paul's, where one of his uncles was a master. In the art classes, he saw G. K. Chesterton and Compton Mackenzie ("He was 'Compton' then"). The High Master was a keen scholarship-hunter, and when he learnt that Shepard wanted to make art his profession, he made it clear that he expected him to win a scholarship to the Royal Academy Schools. After a brief spell at Heatherley's Art School, he did so, in 1897. He was at the Academy Schools until 1902, and won the Landseer Scholarship in 1899 and the British Institution Scholarship in 1900.

He exhibited in the Academy for the first time in 1904, and his exhibition painting, "Followers", was bought by the Durban Corporation Art Gallery, South Africa.

During the First World War he held a commission in the Royal Artillery and served in Burma and Belgium with the 105th Siege Battery. He was at the battles of the Somme, Arras, and the Third Ypres, where as a captain he won the Military Cross. From 1917 to 1919 he served in Italy at Montello and Asiago, retiring at the Armistice with the rank of major.

For many years Shepard contributed a weekly drawing to *Punch*. He was not strictly a comic draughtsman, hardly a satirist and certainly not a caricaturist. He was in the politer, du Maurier tradition of *Punch* which poked gentle fun at social contretemps and domestic perplexity, especially where children were involved. The humour was in the situation rather than in the drawing, which was often subtly flattering to the people involved. Like A. A. Milne (or like John Betjeman) he understood the poetry of the upper middle classes. Some writers attacked him for snobbery; Geoffrey Grigson, who in *The Observer* of September 28, 1958, described Shepard's drawings as "splendidly insipid", condemned the world of A. A. Milne and Pooh—a world of nannies and nurseries, of good families who lived in the right squares, of children whose daddies knew about trout, mayfly and expensive rods, their mamas about trugs and delphiniums, the world of Us and the Other People.

This was pre-eminently the world that Shepard illustrated; but it was a world that existed, and he, whose shining quality was a quiet straightforwardness, cannot be blamed for showing it as it was. It is true that pictorially he found it hard to move with the times: in his *Punch* cartoons of the 1950s, he was still drawing boys in boots and the three quarter knickerbockers that had been an embarrassment to him when he started at St Paul's in the nineteenth century. Yet he retained an extraordinary vigour and vivacity: consider the spirited drawings for his second volume of autobiography, *Drawn from Life* (1962) or the fact that in his eighty-ninth year he was visiting old friends and relations in Cape Town, Durban, Perth, Sydney and Tasmania, returning through Tahiti so that he could look at Gauguin relics. In the same year he completed some new Pooh drawings for a revised edition published in the United States.

His contribution to illustration was belatedly recognized *with the award* of an OBE in 1972. In the following year public demand persuaded The Bodley Head to reissue the 1928 editions of Kenneth Grahame's *The Golden Age* and *Dream Days* with Shepard's illustrations.

In 1904 Shepard married Florence Eleanor Chaplin, herself an artist and Academy exhibitor. She died in 1927 leaving a son and a daughter who married Shepard's *Punch* colleague, E. G. V. Knox, who wrote under the name of Evoe and became editor of *Punch* in 1932. Shepard married, in 1944, Norah Carroll.

MOST REV MGR J. D. SCANLAN

The Most Reverend Monsignor James Donald Scanlan, DCL, former Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, died yesterday at the age of 77.

Born in Glasgow in 1899, he was educated at St Mungo's Academy, at St Aloysius' College and at Glasgow University, where it was thought he would follow his father into the medical profession. At the outbreak of the First World War he went to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and from there he was gazetted to the Highland Light Infantry. He saw active service in German East Africa and Egypt. After the war he studied law at Glasgow University, gaining the degree of BL and joining a firm in Glasgow.

Realizing his vocation was to be a priest he left and entered St Edmund's College, Ware. After further periods of study at the Institut Catholique in Paris, and the Appolinare in Rome, he was ordained priest in 1929. He was made Privy Chamberlain to Pope Pius XI in 1937. Thereafter he was appointed a curate at St James's Church, Spanish Place, London, and became a Monsignor and Chancellor of the Diocese of Westminster in 1944. He became Vicar Delegate for United States Forces in Britain in the following year.

After the war he returned to Scotland where he was Coadjutor Bishop of Dunkeld from 1946 to 1949, Bishop of the diocese from 1949 to 1955, and Bishop of Motherwell from 1955 to 1964. In 1959 he spent two *and a half hours underground* at the Auchengeich Colliery in Lanarkshire on the occasion of a mine disaster in which 46 lost their lives.

He became Archbishop of his native city in 1946 and remained in the office until 1974 when ill health forced his resignation. Here he was noted for his promotion of a growth in understanding between the Roman Catholic and non-Roman Catholic population. He also organized a special Requiem Mass after the Ibrox Park football ground disaster of 1971, in which 66 died.

He was awarded an Hon DD by the University of Glasgow in 1967.

MR J. C. MAXWELL

Mr J. C. Maxwell, Reader in English Literature at Oxford University, died in an accident on March 20.

James Coutts Maxwell was born in Edinburgh in 1916 and educated at George Watson's School and Balliol College, Oxford, where he took a First in Greats in 1938 and a First in English a year later. Immediately before and after the war he taught philosophy at the University of Aberdeen and at Queen's University, Belfast, but in 1946 was elected to a Junior Research Fellowship in English at Balliol. From 1950 he taught at King's College, Newcastle (later the University of Newcastle), where he became Professor of English in 1964. In 1966 he returned to Oxford as Reader in English Literature and a Professorial Fellow of Balliol.

Remarkable for his learning in a variety of literary fields, Maxwell established himself as a distinguished Shakespeare scholar during his years at Newcastle, editing five volumes of Dover Wilson's *New Shakespeare* and a further volume of the *New Arden Shakespeare*. Dover Wilson's prefatory note to *Henry VIII*, expressing admiration for Maxwell's handling of the vexed problem of the play's authorship, draws attention to his characteristic qualities as an editor, praising "its cogency, its neatness (not a word too much or too few) and its finality". Maxwell also edited the *Collected Papers of Sir Walter Greg* (1966), Wordsworth's *The Prelude* (1971) and a collection of *Critical Essays* by Peter Ure, his former colleague at Newcastle. A recently completed edition of Marlowe has yet to be published. Maxwell's critical essays are notable for lucidity and shrewd judgment, but perhaps more characteristic of his temperament are the numerous concise and informative short articles and reviews on a wide range of literary topics published over the last 30 years. Since 1959 he had been a co-editor of *Notes and Queries*, a task he greatly enjoyed, and his concern for scholarly accuracy and significance and for a high standard of reviewing had a noticeable effect on the character of that journal.

With some of the mild eccentricities and reserve of a firmly self-reliant academic bachelor, Maxwell proved on longer acquaintance to be a man of real geniality and kindliness. Scornful at inaccuracy and confusion in his colleagues, he was a patient and encouraging tutor and supervisor of his students and a painstakingly helpful friend of the many scholars who sought his advice and criticism.

FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY

O.H. writes:

I knew the Field Marshal only during the last 20-odd years of his life; years in which he undoubtedly mellowed as he settled down to become a "civilian".

I do not recognize the severe and humourless man depicted in most obituaries yesterday. For me he will always be associated with fun and laughter.

Though he died this week I had long come to terms with the fact that never again would he arrive at our London flat with his overnight bag, brisk and smiling, breathing that same confidence that had carried us to victory in the war, and that no longer would he lunch at our house in the country which, although small, he always teasingly called "the chateau", full of concern for every member of the family whose doings had to be precisely related before he would walk round the garden, criticizing the weeds in the lawn.

With my family I first visited Isington Mill in the early 1950s. By then the character of the owner had been firmly stamped on the interior. The furniture was highly polished, the Persian rugs had a quiet richness and along one wall were the likenesses of four generations of his family ("Long livers; I may live to 90", said the field marshal lightheartedly). In no room was his personality more clearly reflected than his bedroom, neat and spartanly simple; on the occasion of our first visit the clothes he was getting ready for his Swiss holiday lay in neat piles on the bed above which were photographs. "That one is my father; a bishop", he said in his exact way, "the other is the Pope. A great friend of mine. My father would turn in his grave if he knew I had put the Pope next to him." All this with an infectious smile which put the children at their ease.

Hung about his sitting room were his wife's delicate flower paintings. She had died after 10 years of happy marriage and her work had been given back to him by the various owners after they had heard that all his possessions had been lost in the bombing of Portsmouth.

Before tea—dominated by an enormous cake from which he cut huge slices for the boys—he gave us a conducted tour of his war-time caravans which *fascinated* the children; but they were just as fascinated by an enormous motor-cycle presented to him after he had opened an exhibition. In turn each sat on it and the youngest as he mounted the powerful machine, said, to our embarrassment, "When you die, field marshal, what will you do with it?" Monty laughed. "I won't care then", he replied as he chased the boy round the garage like any grandfather.

A man of ascetic habits—war wounds and their enduring legacies dictated his diet—he always saw that excellent food was served to his guests; and wine too for those who enjoyed it.

He was, in my opinion, saved by a charm which defied the television cameras but which delighted his friends. Its chief ingredient was the humility with which he approached any subject outside his own particular expertise and the interest he showed in ordinary people, both soldiers and civilians.

He was fortunate enough, in what he called "the evening of life" to be looked after by a local family of sisters and brothers in a peaceful atmosphere.

To those of us who carried on at home during the long years of war, with husbands or sons on active service, he will forever be identified with the moment of hope, the light at the end of the tunnel that came with his first successes. Perhaps, after all, we could dare to hope for normal family life, and peace and freedom.

Group Captain Roland Arthur Ross Mangles died on March 15 at the age of 74. He served in the RAF from 1921 to 1948 and was a Deputy Lieutenant for Wiltshire in 1963.

Obituaries from The Times, 1961-1970 reprints 1,500 entries from this column, supplemented by an index to all obituaries and tributes appearing during the decade. It is published by Newspaper Archive Developments Ltd, 16 Westcote Road, Reading, £17.50 or, in USA, $50.

More bank aid urged for small companies, Page 18

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

IBM's thousand million dollars on R & D, Page 19

Ryland opposition to government talks over PO worker directors

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

Moves by the Government to set up a tripartite examination of the case for appointing worker directors in the Post Office are likely to be strongly resisted by the corporation's board. It is understood the Department of Industry has approached Sir William Ryland, the chairman, and his colleagues to test reaction to such a scheme.

The Government appears to feel the time has come for a new initiative to involve employees in high level policymaking by the big state corporations to ensure future cooperation on manning, pay and investment strategy.

Examination of structural changes at the British Steel Corporation may also be minimized after the appointment of Sir Charles Villiers as chairman-elect. He has made no secret that he feels that some supervisory structure involving steel unions might create a new sense of partnership and help hold governments at bay, reducing Whitehall interference.

Sir William, for the Post Office, has left the Government in no doubt that, while he is prepared to undertake some experiment in worker participation at the top, the nature of the experiment is best decided by his board in consultation with the unions.

Talks have been in progress for some time. Only last month the unions apparently accepted that there should be a special joint study without the government involvement resulting from a tripartite series of negotiations.

There is a long history to the whole affair. A previous secretary of state for industry asked the Post Office board and the unions to examine the scope for more employee involvement in policy-making. Last August, the union side put in a memorandum, which has been the basis for discussions ever since. However, the unions have been told that the board has reservations about experiments with worker directors. Sir William and his colleagues apparently feel that the present board would not become a representative body.

Any nominated employee part-time board members would also have to be of the right calibre and with the right boardroom discretion.

So any appointments, which must be subject to the chairman's approval, would be on a clear understanding of directorial obligations.

Sir William's patient efforts to reach some agreement with the unions on an experiment with high level worker involvement are, however, now complicated by the Government's suggestion that the issue might be best handled on a tripartite basis.


Sir William Ryland: talks with the unions

At the present time, members of nationalized industry boards are unsettled after the recent controversy over the renewal of top appointment at British Rail, British Steel, and the National Coal Board.

Any rush to decide in a new structure for the board—at one stage the unions seemed to favour 50-50 membership with management—is seen as unnecessary when there is already a government-appointment inquiry into the running of the corporation and the Bullock Committee is also studying the whole question of worker participation in industry.

The Coal Board is already willing to accept tripartite examinations and the steel industry has benefited from the closer involvement of trade union leaders. Whether the unions are ready in the case of the Post Office to press for tripartite talks after their joint talks with the corporation's board now remains to be seen.

But trade union leaders who have given the Post Office considerable cooperation on economies—the corporation has lost nearly £500m since March 1972—may want to report more progress to their forthcoming annual conferences on whether employees are to get direct boardroom voices.

Dutch raise stake in offshore search

The Hague, March 25.—Holland is to take a larger stake in operating companies seeking oil and gas in the North Sea, and will increase its share of profits from future concessions, the economics ministry said today.

This will be effective from April 23 and apply to 9,000 sq kilometres of blocks not yet allocated, and 13,500 sq kilometres for which search permits have been granted but which will revert to the state.

According to a regulation sent to Parliament, the state will take 50 per cent in companies operating in the North Sea, compared with 40 per cent previously, and 70 per cent of the balance of profits, against 50 per cent.

For all search and exploitation permits granted before April 23 the conditions laid down in the previous regulation of 1967 would continue to apply, the ministry said.

In drawing up the new regulations the ministry took into account the wish to obtain as much gas as possible from fields other than the major Slochteren field.

Geological data available showed that the chance of finding more oil and gas in the same favourable conditions for exploitation as in the British and Norwegian sectors of the North Sea, were small, the ministry conceded.—Reuter.

Further BP find in North Sea

By Our Energy Correspondent

British Petroleum's aging semi-submersible drilling rig Sea Quest has found another oilfield in the North Sea. But the field may be small and will need further drilling to assess whether it will be commercially exploitable.

Testing on block 23/26A, close to the Norwegian median line due east of Aberdeen, produced flow rates of 4,800 barrels a day of very light, 42 degree oil. The block adjoins acreage where the Ranger Group has announced an oil find.

Onshore, Shell and Hamilton Brothers yesterday agreed to end a court order granted earlier this month which prevents the rating valuation assessor for Fife from entering the Auk and Argyll oilfields on his valuation roll.

The question of whether offshore oilfield installations are liable for rates will now be decided at a special court hearing in May.

Esso has awarded a £1.5m contract to Western Shiprepairers of Birkenhead to convert the 85,000-ton tanker Esso Warwickshire

Families giving up control of Lyons

By Our Financial Staff

Another major enfranchisement proposal was announced yesterday when the Salmon and Gluckstein families said they had agreed to relinquish control of J. Lyons, the international hotels and foods group which is famous for its Lyons Maid ice cream.

Lyons's decision to give votes to its "A" non-voting shareholders follows a recent similar move by Rank Organisation. The controversy surrounding Rank's enfranchisement has undoubtedly been a factor in the Lyons decision, although the food company says it has had the matter under consideration for some time.

However, Lyons also announced a £10.5m rights issue yesterday in non-voting shares. Given the pressure both from Whitehall and the City for equal voting powers in companies, such a fund-raising exercise may not have been possible without enfranchisement.

The same families have had control of Lyons for over 50 years, during which time the company has grown to its present size where the stock market value is over £40m and sales £650m.

The directors say: "Against this background, the need for more permanent capital and the present trend of public opinion, your board believes that the time is appropriate for all holders of equity share capital to have a voice in their company's affairs proportionate to their holdings."

Through between 6 and 7 per cent of the total equity of Lyons, the family grouping now holds 61 per cent of the votes. Lyons has a complicated capital structure. Compensation terms under the enfranchisement will take the form of issuing one new ordinary share for every £10 ordinary stock or proportional profit stock or every 10 "B" proportional profit shares.

However, holders of voting capital have an alternative: they can take warrants in lieu of their voting capital with the rights to subscribe for new ordinary shares between 1976 and 1986 at 200p against an ex-rights price of around 127p.

Whether the present controlling families maintain their stake in Lyons—and the controlling shareholders have said that they will vote in favour of the proposals—depends on how much of their rights entitlement they take up. The rights are being offered on the basis of one share for every three held at a price of 105p and indications are that full subscription by the family holders would cost between £630,000 and £730,000.

Financial editor, page 19

Italy ban on BP protein is contested

By Roger Vielvoye

British Petroleum has taken the unprecedented step of publicly contesting the suspension of its authority to produce Toprina protein at a new £30m plant in Sardinia.

Authority to use the protein from oil in animal feedstocks was suspended after the Italian Government claimed that the presence of n-paraffins in fat from pigs fed on Toprina warranted further investigation.

Toprina, the commercial brand name of the BP product, is produced from n-paraffins separated from crude oil. Italian government tests produced 71 parts per million in the fat of pigs fed on a diet of 30 per cent Toprina—more than four times higher than envisaged in the authorizations for the process issued in 1972 and 1974.

BP has a 50/50 partnership with ANIC, part of ENI, the Italian state energy company. They have just completed a 100,000-ton-a-year plant at Sarroch in Sardinia.

It is thought the opposition that led up to the suspension is the result of a series of meetings of Italy's Higher Health Council and the inability of a number of ministries to agree on standards for the product.

BP said yesterday: "It is a scientifically established fact that much higher levels of n-paraffins—up to 140 parts per million—have been found in the fat of Italian cattle fed entirely on grass. This is because many grasses, fruits and vegetable produce n-paraffins naturally."

Because of the natural occurrence of n-paraffins, governments including Italy allow much larger levels in foods. The United Kingdom allows up to 1,000 parts per million in bread, and in France 20,000 parts per million are allowed in the treatment of coffee beans. In Italy, where n-paraffins are used as a polishing agent for rice, some products contain up to 1,400 parts per million.

All the EEC countries have approved the Toprina process and French scientists have told the Italians that the latest findings do not invalidate the previous approvals, and that the product is safe.

"The Italian government's action is completely without scientific foundation", BP said in a statement.

Toprina is also manufactured in Britain and France, and earlier this week BP signed an agreement to use its technology in a £60m plant in Venezuela.

MFC confident banks will back Danish debt

By Peter Hill

Maritime Fruit Carriers, the troubled Israeli-American shipping company, is optimistic that its bankers will act to secure the release of one of its ships held in Hamburg at the request of the Danish shipyard which built the ship, and is owed money by MFC.

Yesterday the finance committee of the Danish parliament rejected a request to provide an extraordinary credit guarantee to prevent the arrest of other ships built by the same Danish yard, Aalborg.

According to shipping sources in Copenhagen, the Danish yards, credit institutions and the government have been under heavy pressure from British, Swedish and Norwegian interests involved in efforts to resolve MFC's cash crisis.

The company is in default on about £12m of bank debts and a further £7.5m of supply and service debts.

A spokesman at the British Embassy in Copenhagen confirmed yesterday that messages had been conveyed to the Danish government to protect what he termed "our mutual interests—and that means avoiding loss of money".

The Danish parliamentary committee rejected a request from the Ministry of Trade for an extraordinary credit guarantee to secure the Aalborg yard against any losses on four refrigerated ships built for MFC in the early 1970s.

One of the ships, the Gladiola, is under arrest in Hamburg, and approval of the guarantee would have paved the way for her release. But the majority of the committee decided, apparently, that further respite for MFC would increase rather than lessen the risk of losses.

MFC has evidently failed to meet payment dates to the yard due last November and on February 25 this year. The Danish Shipbuilding Credit Foundation put up 80 per cent of the price of the four ships, with the yard carrying the risk on the remaining 20 per cent.

A spokesman for the shipping company said in London last night that he was "reasonably confident" the banks involved would agree to act as guarantors, and he expected that this would be sanctioned in the next 48 hours.

Trading in the company's shares and debentures in the American over-the-counter market have been suspended at the company's request since March 17 and are likely to remain so for some weeks yet.

Crucial talks take place between the company and representatives of its bankers on April 6, Budget Day, when the banks will decide whether to accept a moratorium on loan repayments for a period of possibly six months.

Resignations reported after Australian group losses

By Our Financial Staff

Speculation about management changes at Associated Securities, the Royal Bank of Scotland's 30 per cent owned Australian associate, was fuelled yesterday by reports that three of Associated's senior managers had left the company.

Mr George Home, Royal Bank's deputy managing director, was unable to confirm the reports and also estimated that the Scottish bank's overall commitments to Associated now top £25m.

Associated, a leading Australian hire-purchase, mortgage and finance house, has been heavily involved in commercial and residential property development along the Australian eastern seaboard and in the Pacific area.

After reaching profits of A$13m (about £8.4m) in 1974, the finance house reported A$2m pre-tax last year after taking in a near A$2m credit for foreign exchange dealings. In the six months to December, 1975, Associated slipped A$3.9m into deficit, and made provisions of A$8.2m against its property assets and loan book.

Royal Bank, a subsidiary of the National & Commercial Banking Group, noted last year that although effective steps "had been taken to streamline the Australian operation, it was unlikely that "there will be a return to previous levels of profitability until after the economy recovers".

Mr Home, for the bank, believes that adequate provisions have been made to cover the company's losses, and that yesterday's reports of management resignations in Australia mark no significant change in the situation.

BSC gets £150m Euroloan

By Our Industrial Correspondent

British Steel Corporation was yesterday granted a £150m loan by the European Coal and Steel Community—the largest ever made by the ECSC—to finance an important new investment on Teesside as part of its 10-year development programme.

This loan, together with a £15m loan to the National Coal Board, were approved by the European Commission in Brussels and have boosted the total loans advanced to the two industries by the ECSC since Britain joined the Community in 1973 to £550m.

The BSC will use the money to support new steelmaking facilities at Redcar and at Lackenby on south Teesside, while the NCB loan will finance the construction of a new drift mine near Pontefract in Yorkshire which, when completed, will be one of the most efficient mines in the Community.

Community financing of the BSC amounts to £390m, of which it has so far received about £174m, and the development at Redcar is one of the largest projects in the Community's steel industry.

Some of the funds will be used in the construction of a blast furnace producing 10,000 tonnes crude steel a day and new coking plant with big improvements in the steelmaking shop and rolling mill at Lackenby on south Teesside.

Once this new coastal complex is completed the plant will have an annual raw steel capacity of 5 million tonnes and will rank as one of the most modern steelmaking centres in Europe.

The loan will be paid out in instalments as the project progresses and the terms of each instalment will depend on market conditions at the time.

In view of the contribution which the project will make to the maintenance of adequate coking capacity in the Community, the Commission said in a statement yesterday that £2.5m of the loan would benefit from an interest rate reduction of 3 per cent on age points for five years.

The BSC is now within days of the end of its current financial year which is expected to result in a huge loss of around £250m.

Sir Jules to retire as chairman of Thorn

By Richard Allen

Sir Jules Thorn, 77-year-old chairman of Thorn Electrical Industries, yesterday announced he is to retire after the annual meeting on August 27.

Sir Jules has chosen Mr Richard G. Cave (56), chairman of Smiths Industries, as his successor. Mr Cave has already been appointed a director and will take up his duties on September 1.

The appointment of Mr Cave ends several years of speculation about the likely successor to the enigmatic figures behind one of Britain's greatest industrial success stories.

Sir Jules was openly talking of his imminent retirement some years ago and the problem of succession seemed to have been resolved when Mr Jack Strowger took over the managing directorship in 1969.

However, as far back as 1973, Sir Jules was making it fairly


Mr Richard Cave

clear that Mr Strowger would not step into the chairmanship and that he was looking for an outsider, to take over the top post. Mr Strowger, who is 60, will remain managing director.

Sir Jules, who came to England from Austria in 1928, built up his huge electricals conglomerate virtually from nothing. Beginning by challenging the 1930s international lamp cartel almost single-handed, he went on to dominate the country's lighting business.

The company went public in 1936 and years of acquisition and merger followed. Names like Marconi, Philco and Ultra and, more recently, Associated Electrical Industries, were absorbed into the Thorn empire. The group now employs more than 80,000 worldwide with turnover approaching £1,000m. Pretax profit in the last full year fell back however from £74.1m to £65.4m.

Knighted in 1964 Sir Jules is still the biggest shareholder of Thorn, controlling more than 10 per cent of the £200m plus equity. He is to become the group's first president.

Mr Cave, whose achievements at Smiths Industries since he joined as commercial manager of a subsidiary back in 1946, have made him one of the City's hottest management properties, is expected to earn considerably more than the £38,000 he is paid at Smiths—possibly £50,000 a year.

At Smiths, Mr E. R. Sisson, the managing director, will become chairman. His post will be taken over by Mr W. A. Mallui-son, and Mr F. R. Hurn is made an executive director.

Prince Bernhard's business links with London-based financier

Continued from page 1

his family, mostly nephews, have various holdings. He describes his relationship to FI as that of "sponsor".

Invited yesterday to discuss his business and the relationship with Prince Bernhard, Mr Ahmed said: "I know Prince Bernhard because I am a member of the World Wild Life Fund. I am one of the members, but my connexion doesn't extend beyond that."

This statement contradicts the experience of a number of businessmen, who have been given evidence of a long standing relationship between Mr Ahmed and Prince Bernhard. On occasion this has included warm personal recommendations.

There is evidence that the Prince has attended meetings in London to promote Mr Ahmed's business interests, and one former associate in his business ventures stated that the mysterious financier had visited the Dutch Royal Palace.

One businessman who met the Prince in Mr Ahmed's company was left with the clear impression that Prince Bernhard relied heavily on his business advice. "Ali", he said, "is the boss".

There is no doubt that various people interviewed were greatly impressed at the outset of their dealings with Mr Ahmed by his obvious royal connexion, whatever its nature.

Mr Ahmed's operations in financing development projects and other deals are shrouded in secrecy, so much so that even his own staff do not understand what takes place at Kingsway and elsewhere; but they confirm that influential people, including the prince, have visited London and met him as well as business clients.

There was at one time a close connexion between FI and a Dutch company Comtrax. Among companies known to have associated with Mr Ahmed in the course of his business dealing have been Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas Belgique (a former managing director, Mr Maurice Naessens, is stated by Mr Ahmed to be his personal adviser), Groupe Immobilière, and Europahotel.

Mr Ahmed told *The Times* that if he had talked to Prince Bernhard it was about Dutch investment and Dutch industry. There was nothing in the way of introductions on his behalf. He denied having made any claims that he was the centre of a very large investment group.

"We are just ordinary business people minding our own business", he said. What sort of business? He replied he was involved in financing but declined to be drawn into discussing examples of projects in which he had been involved over the past four or five years.

Wearing a stylish blue suit, Mr Ahmed, who lives in Mill Hill, denied that any contacts had been made on his behalf by Prince Bernhard. But when asked about whether an introduction had been effected by the prince on his behalf to King Hassan of Morocco, for example, he agreed that a warm letter of introduction had been sent.

"I talk as little about my business as possible", he said. "I don't want to say anything more. Spare me that please.

"My group is just some few friends. We are just ordinary business people. People make up all sorts of stories."

How long had he known Prince Bernhard? "Quite some time", he answered. "Maybe a few years—perhaps five or six years."

He also stated that he would need to talk with others before disclosing their business. Maxwell Rabb was a friend.

Throughout the interview he was reticent about answering any detailed questions without notice.

It is known that Mr Ahmed accompanied the prince on more than a few occasions. There were meetings at Claridge's, in Amsterdam, and on one occasion both the prince and Mr Ahmed visited the research establishment of Metal Box, with whom FI several years ago began some negotiations for financing a new food process. Nothing came of the talks.

This seems to have been the case in other deals. For example, Mr Harvey J. Thompson, president of West Bank Oil in New Jersey, told us: "Our company had many discussions by telephone, telex and on one occasion by personal visit—myself with Ali Ahmed.

"Although considerable time and effort was spent trying to negotiate satisfactory oil deals, we were unable to conclude any agreements. We realized that our efforts would be fruitless after almost one year and finally dropped the project."

Mr Hans Christian Heydecke, a former German banker who was once involved in long negotiations to build hotels, wrote, after months of fruitless negotiations, the long story of his association with Mr Ahmed in a letter to Prince Bernhard.

This drew a reply from the Palace, signed by the prince's private secretary Cornelia M. Gilles. Dated September 9, 1974, it states: "His Royal Highness the Prince of The Netherlands has asked me to reply to your letter of 30 August 1974.

"HRH is a personal friend of Shaikh Ali Ahmed and cannot believe that your accusations are correct. He recommends that you should put yourself personally in touch with Shaikh Ali Ahmed and is of the opinion that your differences can certainly be settled by personal contact."

A one-time close associate of Mr Ahmed stated: "One of the people the shaikh always held out to be a key figure was his friend Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands. They were friends—that I do know", he explained. They often talked to each other.

He claimed that Mr Ahmed was able to get through to very influential people round the world, ranging from President Bhutto of Pakistan, the head of Indonesia, and the Vice-President of Uruguay.

Some businessmen have become involved with Mr Ahmed's business dealings through introductions effected by Mr Amirali Fancy, a wealthy Pakistani who is also well known in London circles.

This was helpful in discussions on projects involving under-developed countries where financing is always a problem.

Inflation enters Price Code debate

Short-term methods for building into the Price Code, a measure of inflation accounting which otherwise would be possible from next year at the earliest were suggested yesterday by a chartered accountants working party.

Chairman of the working party is Mr Geoffrey Wilson, finance director of Delta Metal and a member of the Government's Inflation Accounting Steering Group, looking at implications of the Sandilands report.

Mr Wilson, disclosing the report, emphasized that he was speaking not as a member of the steering group but only as one of the executives of the 100 Group of London and District Society of Chartered Accountants. The 100 Group's report will, however, be seen in Whitehall as an important contribution to the debate over the future of the Price Code.

In Glasgow, at the same time, Mr Joseph Godber, chairman-elect of the Retail Consortium, was giving his strongest warning so far that the code should be changed to allow prices to rise and retailers' profit margins to be restored.

Mr Godber, whose consortium has voluntarily supported the Government's price check scheme at present due to end in July, said: "Further voluntary cooperation by our industry will be dependent upon the Government's recognition that prices must be allowed to rise as the market permits and that the depressed level of profitability in retailing must be permitted to increase to provide for investment and jobs."

He called for a "positive decision" on the code before legislation ran out on July 31. He added that the price check scheme needed to be backed with more government publicity because otherwise it would "quickly fade away".

The 100 Group said if a code had to be kept for political reasons, controls should preferably be restricted to net profit margins.

Mr Varley signals closure of ship repair yard

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, yesterday gave government approval to the closure of the Greenwell ship repair yard at Sunderland, which will result in the loss of 400 jobs.

Mr Varley said a consultants' report showed that there was no hope of making the yard profitable, but that he would be happy to meet all parties concerned.

The consultants' report said that the state-owned yard, in nine out of the 10 years studied, suffered total losses of more than £700,000. The closure of the yard would help to make other yards in the area able to gain profitable work.

US budget deficit revised to peak $76,900m

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 25

America's Administration has modestly revised its estimates of public expenditure to show an increase in outlays for the current year of $900m (about £450m) to $374,400m and a $1,600m rise to estimated outlays for fiscal year 1977—which starts on October 1—to $395,800m.

With the Office of Management and Budget making no changes in its revenue estimates the budget deficit for the current year is now foreseen at a record $76,900m, with next year's deficit also increased by the estimated rise in outlays to total $44,600m.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 166.11 + 0.03
The FT index: 406.3 + 0.2

Rises

Aust & NZ	7p to 395p	Hong K & Shang	6p to 334p
Blackwood Mt	4p to 32p	Jardine M'son	6p to 422p
Brit Leyland	2½p to 30p	Johnson Richd	7p to 232p
Cornercroft	3p to 37p	Norwest Holst	6p to 50p
Furness Withy	7p to 216p	Pittard Grp	6p to 82p
Gallenkamp	10p to 136p	Rotork	6p to 156p
Guthrie Corp	9p to 182p	Standard Chart	7p to 387p

Falls

Barclays Bank	5p to 290p	Nat Comm Bk Gp	4p to 68p
Camellia Inv	6p to 78p	Nat W'minster	6p to 232p
Central Wagon	4p to 20p	Rosgill Hldgs	1p to 11p
Clairmace	2p to 28p	Royal Worcs	8p to 116p
Ldn Prov Post	4p to 100p	Shell	5½p to 408½p
Lyons, J. Ord	5p to 135p	Tube Inv	6p to 366p
Moran	5p to 98p	Unilever	4p to 444p

Equities made further gains with the emphasis on second-line stocks.

Gilt-edged securities were firmer.

Sterling was 35 points lower at $1.9235. The "effective devaluation" rate was 33.7 per cent.

Gold fell 75 cents an ounce to $133.

SDR-$ was 1.15538 on Thursday while SDR-£ was 0.600988.

Commodities: Metals prices eased back. Reuter's index was at 1298.9 (previous 1301.7).

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THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	1.60	1.54
Austria Sch	36.25	34.25
Belgium Fr	80.50	77.50
Canada $	1.94	1.89
Denmark Kr	12.00	11.60
Finland Mkk	7.60	7.35
France Fr	9.20	8.90
Germany Dm	5.05	4.85
Greece Dr	69.00	65.50
Hongkong $	9.95	9.55
Italy Lr	1655.00	1590.00
Japan Yn	605.00	580.00
Netherlands Gld	5.30	5.10
Norway Kr	10.90	10.55
Portugal Esc	58.00	52.00
S Africa Rd	2.60	2.30
Spain Pes	131.00	125.00
Sweden Kr	8.70	8.40
Switzerland Fr	5.05	4.85
US $	1.97	1.92
Yogoslavia Dnr	38.00	34.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

On other pages

Higher limits for bank loans urged to help small business sector

By Rodney Cowtoo

A warning that the small business sector was in a state of decline was given yesterday by Mr John Bolton, who was chairman of the committee of inquiry on small firms which published a major report in 1971.

He said that the vast majority of the recommendations his committee bad made to halt the decline in small businesses had been speedily acted upon, hut "because of the ravages of ioflation and further taxation, by 1976 we are again hack to square one. Tha patient's condition continues to decline: witness the record level of hankruptcies and receiverships. Not enough is being done and not quickly ennugh".

The availability of working capital was still the chief problem, and this problem rested squarely with the clearing banks. It was inevitahle that the local bank manager would he the dominant factor in the supply of capital, and more initiative and greater authority must be given to him as he alone could assess the real security behind increased current assets, future cash flow, and the skill of the people running the business.

In particular, lncal bank managers should be given higher lending limits. If their lending limits had kept pace with inflation during the last 30 years, they would now he at a level of £15,000 or more.

He pointed out that in terms of the return earned on capital employed the best small businesses were as efficient as large companies. But small companies were relatively labour intensive. If unemployment was to be brought hack to tolerahly low levels, it was essential to allow the small business sector to thrive.

The crushing hurden of taxation was the second critical problem facing small businesses. He said a minimnm requirement to provide an environment in which the small firms sector conld thrive was that inheritance taxes should be no more damaging to the private business than those existing for Britain's competitors in Germany, France and Holland.

If Wealth Tax became a fact, it would he national madness to cause productive business assets to he sold to pay for it.

Mr Bolmn was speaking at the launching of a deferred payment scheme by ICFC-Numas which is intended to encourage small, fundamentally sound businesses with cash-flow problems to make usa of the company's management coosultancy services.

The first payment of the consultancy fee would not hecome due until six months after the assignment had hegun, and the fees would then be paid in 12 monthly instalments. There would be a 12 per cent administration charge as well as normal consultancy fees.

Business Diary, paga 19

Depreciated pound may force prices up by 1½ pc

By Tim Congdon

The Government believes that a 10 per cent depreciation of the pound causes a rise in the wholesale price index of ahont 2.7 per cent and in the retail price index of 2.9 per cent, after a lag of about a year.

This was disclosed in a recent answer by Mr Edmund Dell, the Paymaster-General, to a parliamentary question by Mr Norman Lamont, Conservative MP for Kingston upon Thames. The answer gives an important insight into the Government's thinking on the causes of inflation.

Mr Lamont's question also asked if the impact of depreciation varied for different rates. The Government's answer was that the effect of different rates of depreciation was roughly proportionate.

It follows from this that the Government considers that the 5 per cent depreciation of the pound earlier this month is likely to add nearly 1½ per cent to retail prices by spring next year.

A vital qualification to the calculations given by Mr Dell in his answer is that the 2.7 per cent figure for the wholesale price index excludes its food, feed, drink and tobacco components. Most of these items are imported in large amounts, with the implication that the inflation rate would he higher if they were inclnded.

Mr Lamont, in a further parliamentary question, inquired about the relationship hetween exchange rate depreciation and the volume of imports and exports.

In reply, Mr Dell said that the Government believed a 1 per cent drop in the exchange rate caused "an increase of the order of 1½ per cent in the volume of exports of manufactures and a fall of ½-1 per cent in the volumeof imports of manufactures".

Mr Dell added that the estimates rested on three assumptions—that the initial gain in competitiveness was maintained, that the level of activity implied no serions domestic supply constraints and that the changes in the volume of imports excluded the effects of the higher level of domestic activity.

Policy view: A criticism of the common view that the Government is deliberately lowering the exchange rate to achieve domestic policy objectives is contained in the latest *Morgan Grenfell Economic Review*.

The *Review* suggests that the authorities have heen pursuing a "neutral" policy "in the sense that the rate has been managed so as to minimize the effect of domestic inflation on international competitiveness".

Lord Thorneycroft cites 25pc VAT rate for TV sales slump

By Our Commercial Editor

Britain's colour television makers were facing disaster as falling sales forced them to operate at about 50 per cent of capacity, Lord Thorneycroft, president of the Radio Industry Council, said yesterday.

Lord Thorneycroft was making a plea to the Chancellor to cut the 25 per cent valne-added tax rate on television sets and other electrical consumer goods in a pre-Budget letter.

"The effect of the 25 per cent rate of VAT on the consumer electronics industry and its associated components industry has been catastrophic", he said.

By 1973 British manufacturing capacity for colour televisions had heen built up to an annual output of 2.4 million receivers. Deliveries of colour televisions that year amounted to 2.76 million of which Britain's makers accounted for 2.08 million.

The following year deliveries were down to 2.22 million, with the British share at 1.77 million, and last year the total delivered plunged to 1.59 million with domestic production at 1.33 million.

If 25 per cent VAT stayed the Radio Industry Council estimated that sales this year could decline still further to around 1.4 million, of which the British share would he about 1.2 million.

This gloomy forecast follows that made earlier this month by the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association. Budget action apart, it said, a sales improvement in colour televisions was not expected until towards the end of this year.

January deliveries of colour televisions were 40 per cent down on the same month of last year after being 28 per cent down for 1975 as a whole compared with the previous year.

Lord Thorneycroft urged on the Chancellor a gradual scaling down from 25 per cent VAT to 15 per cent with a further adjustment of credit restrictions by reducing the present rental deposit of 26 weeks to 20 weeks.

While the prospects for colour television sales are bleak there have been some signs of improvement in monochrome television, where the rate of decline in deliveries eased in January, and in audio stereo systems which have heen showing only a marginal dacline for some months. Radio receiver deliveries in January were in fact up on the previous year.

Stockbuilding review dampens revival hope

By Melvym Westlake

The recovery in industry's physical stocks towards the end of last year was very much smaller than it first appeared.

Coming after the downward revision in industry's output figures and the ebhing of the new year surge in retail sales, this latest information about stock levels must temper optimism about the early strength of Britain's economic revival.

According to figures published yesterday by the Department of Industry, total stocks rose just £5m during the fourth quarter, compared with an initial estimate of £69m (at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted). However, though disappointing, these latest figures coofirm that the run-down of stocks to September—a principal conrributor to the recession—had come to an end for Industry geoerally.

The final quarter downward revision for stock building partly stemmed from the discovery that the manufacturing sector had reduced stocks by more than first thooght—now £61m rather than £8m. Manufacturers' holdings of materials and fuels wera overestimated, as was the level of work in progress and holdings of finished goods.

In addition, positive stock building by wholesalers was less than estimated. Only retailers' stocks bave not heen revised, and this sector is the only strong area where stock rebuildiog is under way.

During 1975, iodustry's stocks fell £479m to £13,624m, most significantly in the stocks of "other manufacturing" industries which fell by abont £130m, or 11 per cent.

In cootrast, the estimates for capital expenditure during the fourth quarter, also published yesterday, have been revised upwards. Total spending on productive assets by industry is now put at £897m, or £20m more than first estimated, while that for manufacturers rises £9m to £422m.

CAPITAL SPENDING

Tha following are the revised figures publishad today by tha Department of Industry for tha fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributive, service and shipbuilding industrias and for tha physical increase in industry's stocks all seasonally adjusted at 1970 prices:

		£m Investment Total	Mftg	Stocks
1972		4,176	1,738	−138
1973		4,476	1,864	832
1974		4,455	2,087	679
1975		3,857	1,806	−479
1972	Q1	1,029	458	−73
	Q2	1,047	429	−47
	Q3	1,025	423	−45
	Q4	1,074	428	27
1973	Q1	1,138	458	254
	Q2	1,057	443	277
	Q3	1,115	488	123
	Q4	1,166	476	179
1974	Q1	1,101	519	−72
	Q2	1,086	513	261
	Q3	1,135	516	357
	Q4	1,132	539	134
1975	Q1	1,022	493	−92
	Q2	977	457	−219
	Q3	961	434	−173
	Q4	897	422	5

Bank disclosure campaign by Rome prosecutor

Rome, March 25.—Signor Enrico di Nicola, a deputy prosecutors, has opened a campaign to ascertain how leading banks carry certain assets on their books.

His first shot has heen an official notice to two top officials that they will be formally questioned about how Banco di Roma, a hig state-owned institute, has handled the prohlem. The "judicial communications" sometimes lead to formal indictments.

Signor Ferdinando Ventriglia, director general of the Treasury Ministry and formerly vice-president and managing director of Banco di Roma, and Signor Giovanni Guidi, one of the hank's maoaging directors, are the officials.

The assets concerned are known as "internal reserves". Up until the fiscal year ended December 31, 1974, hanks reported these only to Banca d'Italia and to each hank's majority shareholder.—AP-Dow Joues.

Renault to oust British Mini in Japan

Tokyo, March 25.—Reoault cars are to reappear on the Japanese market prohahly later this year, after a three-year absence.

Capital Enterprise Limited, a Japanese foreign car distrihutor, announced this after concluding an agency deal with Régie Nationale des Usines Renault for the sale of small cars in Japan. Renault would replace British Mini Coopers, wbose exports to Japan stop next month hecause of the rigid Japanese emission controls.

Renault's five-seater 4-5 GTL model was now heing tested in Tokyo for the 1976 emission control standards, Capital said.

EMI—Oxy Metal deal

EMI Electronics is to take over part of the Oxy Metal Industries factory complex on the Sheerwater estate, Woking, Surrey, to accommodate an expansion programme.

Chrysler chief backs UK offshoot

Chrysler UK had a long-term future as a successful company, and British press reports that it would not he in existence in two years' time were "ridiculous" Mr Gene Cafiero, president of Chrysler Corporation, said yesterday.

In a statement made for the first issue of *Chrysler Challenge*—tbe new external house newspaper of Chrysler UK, he said: "We are counting on the British company being a permanent part of Chrysler activities.

"It represents an opportunity for us and we have excess capacity in Britain I should like to see utilized.

"In all the puhlicity surrounding the agreement with the Government, the extent of tbe corporation's financial involvement has been overlooked. We are guaranteeing directly and indirectly loans of £90m.

"We are investing a further £10-12m this year. We have waived prior loans to Chrysler UK which, with interest, total £19m.

"We have said we will consider further investments in the British company and we sball be taking a decision on that by the end of next year. We are backing the operations of our British subsidiary not only with a tremendous amount of time and effort hut with large amounts of money."

Docks strike halts china clay exports

Eighteeo ships were anchored off the south Cornish coast yesterday, unable to enter the two china clay ports of Fowey and Par, because of a strike by 103 dockers over pay. Both ports handle only china clay exports, and the strike may have extensive effects on the Cornish china clay industry.

No moves were made yesterday hy the dockers, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, or the port operators, English China Clay Co, which last year exported £51m worth of goods.

A company spokesman said: "The dispute arose from the introdoction of new loading equipment at the port of Fowey. The dockers there asked for extra payments which would have hreached the pay code."

£100,000 state grant to boost machine tools

First grant to he made undar the Government's £20m scheme for encouraging investment in Britain's machine tool industry is to be taken up by Cincinnati Milacron, of Birmingham.

The company will receive a £100,000 grant towards the £600,000 cost of a new heat treatment plant m be huilt at the company's existing small parts manufacturing factory at Tamworth.

Fisheries plea to Mr Peart

Shareholders of Associated Fisheries yesterday took the unprecedented step of instrucing their chairman to send "a statement nf concern" on their hehalf to Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

A sbareholders' statement from the company's annual general meeting callad on the Government to provide "urgent assistance to stop the destruction of the industry".

The statement said the lack of a coherent national policy for the fishing industry was leading to ships being scrapped; the permaneot closure of port facilitias; redundancies and heavy financial losses for shareholders and, ultimately, the nation.

Mr P. M. Tapscott, company chairman, told the meetiog that during the last financial year the company's oil hill was more than £5m. However, with the benefit of new quotas trading results were now improving.

Pay dispute threatens R-R engine plant

Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd will next week set a date for the closure of the aero engine works at Bristol if a strike hy more than 500 electricians and toolmen continues. The plant, with 13,000 workers, makes engines for Coucorde, the MRCA fighter aircraft and the Harrier.

The strike, started last Friday, is over a claim for pay differentials.

World textile upturn 'still awaited'

There was still no sign of a worldwide recovery in textiles, although the recession may have hottomed out, Dr Philip Smith, chairman of the Manchester-based Shirley Institute, the international textiles research association, said at tha annual meeting yesterday.

Reporting a loss of £31,363 last year, Dr Smith said they were budgeting for a further loss this year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cheap imports and the future of the British textile industry

From Dr P. W. Foster

Sir, In his attack on the chairman nf Carrington Viyella, Mr Bilitch writes (March 23) as if perfect free trade existed and that such unpleasant things as dumping did not exist. Unfortunately, we live in an imperfect world, and some idealists have not realized this yet.

Several United Kingdom companies have suffered, as has Carrington Viyella, with imports of, for example, woven bulked polyester fabrics in commodity quantities. Imports have been coming into this country from the Far East at price levels which are so low that, to compete, we would virtually have to obtain the textured yarn for free.

Mr Bilitch seems to argue that such dumping must benefit the eventual United Kingdom consumer. On a very short-term view he may be right, if the price advantages are fully passed on. However, we hava now evolved to a situation in the textile industry of the United Kingdom where large profits are being made in the high streets of Great Britain by large multiple retailers, most of who import very substantial percentages of their merchandise; but then as nne moves back into the manufacturing end of the industry, through the textile production sequence of retailer, wholesaler, maker-up and cutter, dyer and finisher, weaver or knitter, yarn texturizer, yarn producer, fibre spinner, polymer manufacturer, one finds an increasingly depressing story of mounting losses. For example, the synthetic fibre producers of Europe alone are now estimated to be losing £5m per week.

There are sufficient historic parallels to show where this sequence of events leads. The textile industry of Sweden was largely wiped out 10-15 years ago by imports. At present, the German making industry, facing the same threat, is leaving its country to reestablish itself along the southern shores of the Mediterranean and in Iran (that is, if you cannot beat them, join them). Can one doubt that German fabric production will fail to follow in four to five years' time, leaving Germany in the same position as Sweden, but with a chemical and synthetic fibre husiness bereft of home outlets. Sweden could stand the loss of the jobs involved, Germany may be able to do so. I doubt very strongly whether the United Kingdom could.

As an industry the textile trade in the United Kingdom in all its ramifications is the largest employer of labour in the country. To allow it, and the attendant industries dependent on it, such as the large chemical companies, to be dismembered and the jobs exported abroad is to foster unemployment on a scale that, in my opinion, cannot be compensated for by the expansion of the rest of United Kingdom industry.

I believe that import controls rapidly applied are necessary to control the excesses of some of our unprincipled competitors and of our largest United Kingdom retailers. The latter are driven by profit motives to seek out distress sales, wheresoever in the world they can find them. We need, therefore, a Department of Industry, staffed with personoel who have the knowledge of a rapidly moving trade, and the motivation to take actions that are in the long-term good for the country and its people, rather than actions based on short-term political expediency.

Yours faithfully,
P. W. FOSTER,
The Brackens,
Exeter Hill,
Tiverton,
Devon.
March 24.

British Rail's passenger fare strategy

From Dr Donald Longson

Sir, At a time when British Rail is facing adversity on many fronts, it is easy to understand and share Mr Ellison's satisfaction (March 23) that the London/Birmingham service is profitable and useful to the business community; I hope other similar streams of traffic will he identified and exploited, hut cannot accept the inference that special circumstances in a sector of the rail network should justify the general financial policy.

The health of British Rail depends greatly on the total load carried but no evidence is cited, suggesting that the proportion of passengers, representing a random sample of the travelling public, is greater than it would be with lower fares. One can confidently suspect tha contrary; if more ordinary passengers were attracted to the London/Birmingham route despite higher fares, and against the national trend, it would be a chance occurrence.

It is much more prohable that lower fares, or greater fare differentials herween first and second class, would attract more passengers and our distinguished foreign customers would be unlikely to switch to the M1 motorway.

A stroke of good luck, inspired promotion, or tapping a lucrative and possibly unique source of revenue will not dispel the widespread belief that the rail industry, driven by despair, is concentrating on the screw which impinges least on its internal politics.

In the long run this is unlikely to be the wisest course.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD LONGSON,
24 Torkington Road,
Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 2AE.
March 24.

From Mr A. S. Gann

Sir, I was interested to read in the letter (March 23) from Mr D. V. Ellison, Chief Passenger Marketing Manager of British Rail that the London-Birmingham service was "one of those where the first-class accommodation is sold before the second".

Having travelled to Birmingham first-class recently, I cannot understand why it is sold at all. The seats are hard, there are no compartments to give an alternative to the open saloon coaches which not everyone likes, and no escape from the obligatory tables—often unwanted—which are cramping and get in the way of one's newspaper or book.

This is, I recognize, just a manifestation of British Rail's evident policy, increasingly observable as new stock comes into use, of removing from first-class travel most of the elements of added comfort, space and elegance which used to make it seem worth paying extra for. When is this policy to be reversed?

Yours faithfully,
A. S. GANN,
25 King Henry's Road,
Lewes,
Sussex BN7 1BY.
March 24.

The government as paymaster

From Mr J. C. Smith

Sir, Before the next much discussed bout of company legislation arrives on the already over-laden desks of company directors might not a little time and space be devoted towards giving companies a more sporting chance of survival?

A single issue which might be debated is that whereas the Revenue and HM Customs and Excise have enormous powers in the collection of monies, the reverse is not the case, as a company can he in tha invidious position of facing the immediate threat of bailiffs from one department which is a creditor, whilst simultaneously being told of the compnter prohlems on payment by another department which is a long-standing debtor.

Very recently there have been some spectacular liquidations in which certain government departments and local councils were heavily criticized for failure ro pay accounts within a reasonable period and perhaps one answer might be to allow companies the right to set-off for one department's debt against another department's claim. Such a move would redress the present inequitable imbalance and give companies the chance to invest the precious capital, at present locked in government compnters, for the creation of more jobs.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. SMITH,
Blakeney House,
Crossway,
Shawford,
Hampshire.
March 15.

The thermal insulation of houses

From Mr A. Russell

Sir, Mr Eric Ambrose (March 24), not for the first time, has highlighted the general lack of understanding of the vital importance to this country of a high standard of thermal insulation for dwellings.

If energy conservation is our first priority (and who can doubt it since fuel costs have been the prime cause of inflation) why does not the Government follow the sensible example of neighbours like the Dutch who subsidize thermal insulation for walls and roofs by large grants? Apart from reduction in the use of energy the capital cost would be repaid with ever increasing speed as fuel prices continue to rise. A further increase in our electricity bills is promised for July.

At the very least, interest free government loans repayable over five years would be practical, non-inflationary politics with the capital repayments met from consequent savings. It would be an even more attractive proposition than the present willingness of building societies to lend money to existing borrowers for this purpose.

That the Government itself realizes this essential need is avidenced by its eagerness to reduce energy expenditure in its own buildings of all types by voting large sums for the upgrading of thermal insulation standards. But why stop there since we are all in the same boat?

Yours faithfully,
A. RUSSELL,
42 Ravenscroft Avenue,
London, NW11.
March 24.

Unions' voice

From Mr Christopher Robinson

Sir, Were management just a matter of making wheels go round, then may he the National Consnmer Council expressing opposition to trades union board members, has a point.

But when some large companies manipulate, merge, and mangle great chunks of the working population, and their way of life, to prodnce near monopoly control with rationalized choice of product, distrihution, and sales outlet, then something other than tha CBI "consultation on many matters" seems needed.

Or is it too astringent to ask that some of the less pleasant managerial techniques be subjected to other than one-sided scrutiny?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON,
Stowood,
Oxford OX3 9SR.

Communicators

From Mr R. A. J. Kirkby

Sir, Unfortunately I have to scan the "situations vacant" columns with anxious attention, and have been struck by the number of jobs available at high salaries for persons who can negotiate and liaise with central and local government departments. This seems to he a new profession in its own right, and is presumably yet another indicator of the level of government intervention (interference?) in husiness.

Has anyone costed this aspect of modern business staffing?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROBIN A. J. KIRKBY,
15 New Street,
Millhrook,
Plymouth.
March 24.

Commitment to 'save it'

by Derek Harris

Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, was perhaps suitably tart when he told the Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology that the 18-nation International Energy Agency had described Britain's energy conservation policy as one of the most imaginative so far.

It was the select committee which had earlier labelled as feeble the Department of Energy's efforts to trim energy use with the Save It campaign and other appeals.

The truth appears to be that the department's efforts since it launched into energy conservation in December 1974 have met both success and comparative failure. It depends on the criteria applied; it is not just a matter of meeting the oil crisis, although that problem is big enough, but of laying the foundation for an energy conservation policy that has to look beyond the turn of the century.

It is clear that the commitment to energy conservation in Britain will go on. The Fuel and Electricity Control Act, published in 1973 as a temporary expedient to meet the oil crisis and since extended to next November, has been superseded by the Energy Bill published on March 12. This establishes permanent and reserve powers for controlling fuel and electricity and for conservation measures.

The Bill partly has to do with keeping going the machinery for controlling the supply and use of energy in an emergency. It will allow Britain to meet its stocks commitments under the International Energy Agency treaty, with power to control prices of petrolaum and paraffin in another emergency. And it will strengthen Britain's hold on gas supplies from the North Sea and other offshore fields.

But it will mean retention and extension of energy conservation measures taken under the 1973 Act, such as the heating restriction in offices and other large buildings to 68° Fahrenheit and the curbing of lighting during daylight on most outdoor advertising and other signs. The lower speed limits on roads will also stay.

A new measure which the Government hopes to bring in under the Energy Bill in April next year is fuel consumption tests for every make of car on the British market. A number of ways are proposed to make it easy for prospective car buyers to make accurate comparisons between cars, a move which is expected to encourage sales of more economical vehicles and to stimulate manufacturers into concentrating even more on producing optimum economy from engines.

Car advertisements will have to carry the government-approved performance figures and car handbooks will also have to include the results.

It is also proposed under the Bill that garages selling cars will have to display not only the performance results of the cars they are selling but figures for competitive models from other makers. This may not find favour with the trade, including some manufacturers, but should ram home the conservation message in the money-in-your-wallet terms that are most likely to affect prospective buyers.

The petrol and diesel consumption tests will probably include a "town" figure, based on busy urban road runs, as well as constant speed figures.

A dual estimate system of this kind operates in the United States and has been widely welcomed by vehicle users. It appears to have concentrated much more attention on car economy as a sales factor and has got rid of misleading car advertisement claims.

Measures of this kind, useful as they are, show clearly the problem of "selling" the idea of energy conservation. This is the basic difficulty with which the Government has been wrestling since it started the campaign and to which there is no simple, single answer.

For every Marks & Spencer or Baker Perkins which responded to the energy conservation programme with definite plans, there have been hundreds of companies which appear to have done little or nothing except to make sure that more lights are switched off. Yet with nearly half of Britain's energy used by industry this is the area which, in the long-term, is going to make the biggest difference.

Total energy consumption in Britain last year was 3 per cent down on the previous year. Since 1974 included extensive cutbacks during the three-day week, the underlying trend of reduction last year must have been well in excess of 3 per cent.

A comparison between the last nine months of last year and the same period of 1974 shows a fall in total consumption nearer to 7 per cent and is probably a much more realistic reading of the energy saving trend.

The Save It campaign has had some quantifiable results. The do-it-yourself market in hot water tank lagging jackets has increased fourfold according to the Insulated Jacket Manufacturers Federation.

Some loft insulation manufacturers logged sales increases of more than 40 per cent in 1973-74 and about 35 per cent last year. Double-glazing sales have been mounting, with increases last year of 30 per cent or more over the year before. Foam insulation of cavity walls is increasing.

The leap in petrol prices seems to have persuaded motorists to make fewer journeys. Despite an increase in the number of vehicles there was about a 2 per cent saving in petrol consumption in Britain last year.

Smaller, more economical cars have increased in popularity and the sales of motor cycles and smaller machines have been in some cases the best for 15 years or more. Against that, sales in the luxury two-litre car class, which had been badly affected seem to be showing signs of recovery.

Away from the domestic sector there have undoubtedly been gains. The Property Services Agency, for instance, in the first year of a five-year plan to save fuel used in public buildings, achieved a saving of £8.5m out of a total fuel bill of £100m. It is aiming for an eventual 20 per cent fuel saving.

Encouraging other industries

To encourage other industries to follow suit the Department of Energy has produced a series of studies showing what the nationalized fuel industries, three major oil companies, the British Steel Corporation and ICI's petrochemicals division have been doing to save energy.

Good housekeeping is shown to lead to substantial savings of between 5 and 10 per cent in the short term. Capital schemes aimed at energy saving can produce savings of between 2 and 10 per cent, typically with a return of the investment in two or three years.

In the longer term, ICI at one of its large fibre plants even looks to savings of as much as 35 to 40 per cent when plans for rationalization and increased output are completed.

But these concerns, in one form or another, have strong vested interests in promoting, energy conservation. Steel and petrochemicals, for instance, are fuel-intensive industries.

So far few concerns have taken up the Department of Energy's loan scheme for capital expenditure on energy-saving equipment. But with the loans being offered at present market rates of interest the lack of success there may be more apparent than real; companies may be bringing in capital schemes but raising their cash from traditional sources.

It does seem more likely, however, that capital spending on energy-saving equipment may be suffering, in the same way as other industrial investment, because of the hesitancy many companies are showing about raising capital spending. With the economy showing signs of improvement this looks like changing and energy-saving schemes could be among the beneficiaries.

Lord Lowell-Davis, whose appointment as Minister for Energy Conservation is putting more backbone and consistency into the Government's conservation policy, can be expected to take the spirit of the Save It campaign into new areas even though a specific new phase has not yet been formulated for Treasury approval.

Most fruitful source

There are likely to be many smaller companies which have achieved energy savings. This could be the most fruitful untapped source of potential energy saving, since the bigger companies are more likely to appreciate earlier the economic arguments for mounting a conservation policy of research and implementation.

One-day visits to companies to look at problems and offer advice will be done on a three-year rolling programme under the eye of the inter-departmental Industry Energy Thrift Scheme.

The Energy Audit Scheme will take a deeper look at difficulties and possible answers in the use of energy by industry and should stimulate research sector by sector.

Lord Lowell-Davis has remarked that energy conservation has to be a long-term policy maintained over a period of years. The stakes are high; the department reckons that if industry and commerce cut their energy bills by 10 per cent they would save themselves £2m every working day.

The author is Commercial Editor, The Times.

Poor families find the heat too much

by Pat Healy

The enormous increases in fuel prices over the past few years have aroused considerable, if belated, public concern for the plight of the poor. That concern focuses particularly on pensioners who have died from hypothermia.

But much of the public anger is misplaced. Every winter, 60,000 more old people die than in the summer; and that has been happening year in, year out, including in the good old days when the fuel supply industries were heavily subsidized and heating was cheaper.

There is no evidence so far that more old people have died of hypothermia since fuel prices began to rise to reflect the ending of subsidies. But there is plenty of evidence that poor families are finding it more and more difficult to meet their increasing fuel bills.

What the price rises are demonstrating clearly is what has always been evident: that pensioners and poor families cannot afford enough heat unless they have enough money. The Government has now admitted that fuel prices have risen faster in recent months than pensions and other benefits, which means that the poor are having to stretch already limited incomes much further if they are to have adequate warmth and hot water.

Subsidies effectively hid the situation from the public. Now that the better off, too, are having to stretch their incomes to maintain their standards it is possible to see what the likely impact is on the least well off.

In a sense, pensioners are the best protected of the poor. They tend to live in smaller houses or flats than the rest of the population, which reduces their fuel needs. If they claim supplementary benefit, they almost automatically receive heating allowances on top. Public concern for them is so marked that electricity and gas engineers sent to cut off their supplies if they do not meet their bills are most unlikely to carry out their orders.

However, pensioners still do not have high enough incomes to pay for adequate heating. Data from the family expenditure surveys for 1971-74 show that pensioners spend almost as much in cash terms on fuel, power and lighting as the average household. The proportion of their expenditure on those items is one and a half times the average. Figures for 1975, due in the autumn, will be the first hard evidence on the relative impact of the higher prices for the two groups.

But families with children are often in a worse situation. If they are on supplementary benefit, they are much less likely than pensioners to have extra heating allowances unless they are in a centrally heated council estate where special arrangements have been made. Such cases are rare.

They can claim an exceptional needs payment to meet a specific bill, but those are rarely given and are often conditional upon the family undertaking "voluntary savings" to avoid arrears in future. The rules for voluntary savings and exceptional needs payments have been eased after an agreement between the Supplementary Benefits Commission and the fuel industries, and they may offer them more support in future.

But many families have already given up hope of help from supplementary benefits and turn to local authorities for help. Social workers are becoming increasingly concerned because, they argue, cash help is a matter for supplementary benefits, not the social services.

They are more ready to help working families, who cannot turn to supplementary benefits for help but are just as likely to face disconnexions if their incomes are significantly below average. Last year, there were 125,000 electricity disconnexions which the Department of Energy says is a normal figure.

The voluntary organizations want a fundamental change in pricing structure to avoid more old people dying of hypothermia because they will not turn on heating for fear of disconnexions if they run up high fuel bills, and more children being permanently damaged by living in too low temperatures. Present pricing structures are biased heavily in favour of those people with the heaviest consumption. The voluntary organizations have pressed the Government for an inverted tariff system, so that small consumers pay the least per unit and the heaviest consumers the most.

As a rough rule of thumb, they argue, that would take care of most of the poor. A government working party that looked at the issue came to the same conclusion, but because inverting tariffs would also mean heavier bills for a significant number of poor people, it decided it was not a viable proposition. Its analysis of the type of system most favoured by the voluntary organizations showed that it would help most of the poor and hurt the smallest number. That option has been ruled out by the Government.

But there is now hope that a much more radical and fundamental approach will be adopted, not necessarily by this Government but at least by large sections of the labour movement.

In a paper prepared by two policy advisers to Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, the idea is put that high prices will continue for the foreseeable future. The paper argues that, given little chance of bringing down prices, other ways of ensuring that working families are not forced to return to prewar heating standards must be found.

The way this can be done, the paper argues, is not to alter price structures but to ensure that people can heat their houses properly with much less fuel. The way to do that would be to adapt the housing stock so that energy consumption needs are drastically cut.

The beauty of the idea is that it would, over a period of perhaps 25 years, change the housing stock sufficiently to ensure that people could always have enough warmth and hot water however high prices rose.

The author is Social Services Correspondent, The Times.

Work starts on third-generation nuclear programme

by Kenneth Owen

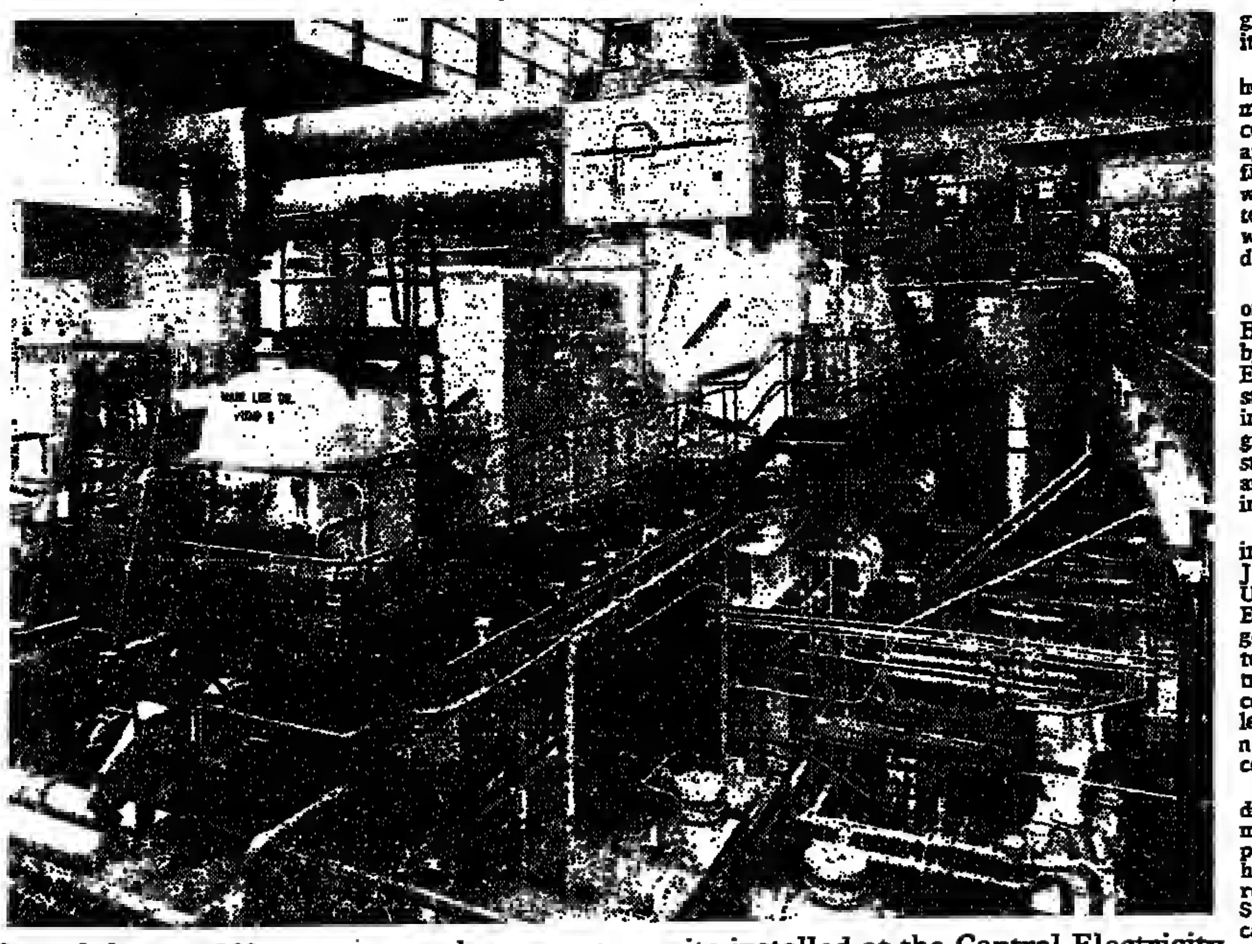
As the first of Britain's long-awaited, second-generation nuclear power stations—advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) designs—begin to contribute power to the national grid, the Nuclear Power Company and the Central Electricity Generating Board have begun design work leading to the third-generation nuclear programme.

Announced by the Government in July, 1974, this programme involves the steam-generating heavy water reactor (SGHWR). The 1974 commitment is to a modest, four-year programme of "not more than 4,000 megawatts".

Looking farther ahead, there is the prospect nf more SGHWR orders; the possibility of orders for American-design light-water reactors (LWR's), despite their rejection in 1974; end the possibility (though hopes have dimmed recently) of international cooperation on the highly efficient high-temperature reactor (HTR).

Io the longer term the even more efficient fast hreeder reactor remains the Government's maio objective, again with the accent oo interoational cooperation.

Experience with the first-generation Magnox stations and with the AGRs has heen reflected in the planning for the SGHWR programme. Big changes have been made in the CEGB's project management procedures, in particular, to try to avoid the sort of huge delays and extra costs which have been encountered with the AGRs.



One of the two 660-megawatt turbo-generator units installed at the Central Electricity Generating Board's Hinkley Point B nuclear power station, near Bridgwater, Somerset. Hinkley B is the first of the board's advanced gas-cooled reactor power stations to raise power.

Reviewing the first-generation Magnox programme, Mr Arthur Hawkins, chairman nf the Ceotral Electricity Generatiog Board, said: "When we launched it we had oo guarantee of success. To carry it out we bad to pusb forward the existing boundaries of technology.

"One consequence of this was that we experienced a corrosion problem and, as a result, some derating has been necessary."

But the programme had undoubtedly been highly successful, Mr Hawkins said, and bad brought great rewards to the United Kingdom.

At the end of 1974 total world generation of nuclear power (excluding the Soviet Union) amounted to nearly 300 million megawatt-hours. Just over 40 per cent of this total was contributed by Britain's 11 Magnox stations.

Although the Magnox stations represented only about 6 per cent of the CEGB's plant capacity in that year, they accounted for almost 10 per cent of the units generated.

Nuclear power had now reached the stage oo the CEGB system, Mr Hawkins said, where it was producing electricity more cheaply than coal or oil-fired generation. There was no doubt that the Magoox programme was costing overall less than would an equivalent programme of contemporary coal-fired stations.

In 1974 the CEGB's Magnox stations cost £49m more in depreciation, interest and operating expenses hecause they were nuclear. But they saved no less than £133m on the fuel hill, thus giving a net balance for the year of £84m in favour of the Magnox stations.

Troubles with the advaoced gas-cooled reactor were outlined recently by Mr Robert Peddie, a board member of the CEGB. Contracts were placed with three consortia, each of which produced its own design.

"It can now be seen", Mr Peddie said, "that there was insufficient natiooal resource in industry to undertake the high technology job of designing three prototype stations by three groups in isolation at the same time."

The greatest causes of delay had been the amount of design innnvations and the failure to ensure that all prototype features were properly proved before being committed to production.

Oil leaks and vibrations showed up in reactor tests at Hinkley Point B and all circulators had to be stripped down, modified and rebuilt. Hartlepool and Heysham were delayed 18 months while insulation was redesigned and fixings already installed were stripped out aod replaced with new desigos.

This cost £30m and was not an isolated case, Mr Peddie said. Other AGR difficulties stemmed from the absence of firm safety requirements at a sufficiently early stage of the project.

The consortia were giveo no specific safety criteria against which to design.

Not surprisingly, they frequently came up with different criteria for judging the design. Much valuahle professional time was wasted in argument. Although agreement was usually reached in time, this often involved modificatioos to already installed equipment.

The classic case of disagreement concerned the Hartlepool boilers. The inspectorate called for a double steel closure on the boilers and caused a two-year delay in the programme. Resultant extra costs amounted to about £25m.

The main lesson of the AGR, Mr Peddie emphasized, was that, wbere prototype equipment was involved, it must be identified at the first stages of the project; and detailed programmes covering prototype concepts and detailed design, manufacture and test must be produced and monitored.

"Only thus can we eosure that the equipment is proved before the overall design of the plant into which they are to work is frozen".

Expenditure patterns for nuclear power stations in general follow an S-shaped curve, with a low rate of spending in the early design stage, rising steeply as work on-site gets under way.

AGR experience showed that in risk areas for every £10,000 not spent at the appropriate time at the beginning of the project, costs of about £1m can be incurred for design, manufacture and associated time-dependent costs later.

This ia the philosophy that is being applied in the development programme for the SGHWR, to take time at the beginning to get the design right; and to monitor carefully each stage and detail of the programme before moving on to the next.

This marks a big change in the attitude of the CEGB to the management of nuclear station construction projects. As a part of this new approach, the board is auditing the performance in quality assurance and programme managemeot of all its main suppliers.

About 500 such audits had been completed by the middle of last month. Those companies which are approved will receive certificates of compliance; those which are later selected to tender for particular items will undergo a further design management audit.

The first two AGR stations, one owned by the CEGB at Hinkley Point and the other by the South of Scotland Electricity Board at Hunterston, have just begun feeding power into the national grid. Three more AGR stations are still being built and should be commissioned in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

"When these stations are in full operation", says Sir John Hill, chairman of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, "nuclear generation will correspond to about 20 per cent of electricity production in this country and will be equivalent to a consumption of nearly 25 million tons of coal per annum".

Now that the nuclear industry in Britain has been merged into a single company, and the Government has decided on the type of reactor it is to build, Sir John adds: "I hope we can achieve the continuity nf ordering and manufacture which is so essential and which we have not had in the past.

"The fragmentation of the industry and the lack of continuity of ordering have heen great impediments to the building up of a sound nnclear industry in this country."

Pnwer stations, whether fossil-fualled or nnclear, are extremely expeosive, Sir John admits. There is no donbt that nuclear stations are a much cheaper way of generating electricity than is burning fossil fuels bnt, with electricity demand falling, it is clear that there will be a mnch reduced level of ordering of generating capacity for several years.

"But the construction of power stations is a long-term undertaking", he insists. "We have got to look ahead to the electricity requirements of the 1980s and the early 1990s. We have got to make provision for adequate electricity in this long-term period.

"There is no doubt at all that we are going to require a very substantial nuclear programme for electricity generation and we must do what is necessary to achieve this objective."

The author is Technology Correspondent, The Times.

Falling demand brings cuts

by Peter Hill

Just a few weeks ago in the ordered calm of Church House, Westminster, one of the most remarkable encounters between the heads of two nationalized industries took place. Sir Arthur Hawkins, the chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, and Sir Derek Ezra, the chairman of the National Coal Board, were attempting to thrash out a policy for the two industries along with a group of trade union leaders under the chairmanship of Mr Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy.

It was the first of a series of forum type meetings organized by Mr Wedgwood Benn in an attempt to formulate energy policy; future meetings will include representatives from other energy industries. But, while there was common agreement between the coal and electricity chiefs on a number of issues, Mr Hawkins made it clear that he and the CEGB, the NCB's largest customer, took a dim view of the NCB's pricing policies and of some of the suggestions made by the coal industry for helping it to sell more coal than would be the case nther-wise.

Considerable quantities of coal are being produced now and stockpiled. It is still being hurnt at the power stations but there has been a fall in the overall sales of electricity. The coal burn element of the CEGB's generation capacity remains large—some 70 per cent of total installed capacity can burn coal—although in 1958, when the electricity supply industry was established in its presenr form, coal accounted for 99 per cent of total generating capacity.

Coal still provides the generating industry with the hulk of its fuel requirements, despite the growth in the use of oil, gas and in the future, nuclear electricity generation. In the next 10 years it is coal which will still account for the bulk of the capacity in service at the time.

Bnt what has concerned the CEGB is the pricing policies nf the NCB. At the energy forum Mr Hawkins criticized what be called the "cavalier attitude" of the NCB in introducing large price increases without first entering into detailed consultations with the CEGB. At the beginning of this month the NCB introduced a 15 per cent rise in the price of coal sold to the CEGB, which will add £150m to the CEGB's fuel bill in a full year. This increase has important implications for the CEGB and for electricity consumers.

This was the fourth increase in power-station coal prices in two years and in this period the industry's coal bill has risen by 178 per cent. In the coming financial year the CEGB's coal bill will amount to some £1,150m. But this increase strikes at the heart of the CEGB's own predicament.

Its sales have been falling and in the year 1975-76 it has been selling less electricity than it did in 1972-73 as a result of reduced industrial activity, energy conservation and reaction of customers to higher energy costs.

It now has a surplus of generating capacity and in planning its fuel burn in the present financial year, it allowed for a 4 per cent decline in electricity consumption. Mr Hawkins and the CEGB have made it clear that they face a big difficulty.

"Electricity has entered a most difficult and challenging period as a result of the reduction in present and forecast levels of demand for its product. It is in a similar position to the coal industry in that its productive capacity far exceeds the present reduced demand for electricity", Mr Hewkins said recently.

It is in an attempt to soften the impact of this development that the CEGB, with cooperation from the trade unions, is now planning to bring forward the closure or part closure of 47 power stations over the next few years which are surplus to generating requirements.

The electricity industry has recently made a substantial downward revision of its consumption estimates for 1982-83. The Electricity Council has adopted a figure of 52,000 megawatts as the likely maximum demand for electricity in the winter of 1982-83 and this represents a 3.5 per cent annual increase over the period on the provisional estimate for this winter of 41,000MW.

But the latest estimate for the 1982-83 winter is 2,000MW below the estimate made last year for the winter of 1981-82 and compares with estimates of 4.5 per cent increases over the six-year period. The industry has a current output capacity of 59,000MW with another 15,700MW of additional capacity under construction. This additional power station capacity is due for completion in 1981 and some of it will replace nld and uneconomic plants.

In the early part of the next 10 years around 4,000 MW of nuclear generation capacity will be fed into the grid when the CEBG's first steam generating heavy water reactor is brought into commission.

The downward slide in electricity sales influenced by the steep rise in prices and the increased penetration of fairly low-priced gas in the market place, raise difficulties not only for the CEGB and the coal industry but for large areas of manufacturing industry. Even before the latest demand estimate was published, the CEGB has made it clear that on the basis of demand estimates that were available, the board had no need to order any new coal or oil-fired stations before 1978, and decisions might have to be deferred until 1980. It now looks as though deferments could delay further ordering until beyond that date.

The forward ordering requirements are being reviewed again but the impact on the manufacturers of heavy electrical and boiler plant is likely to be considerable. The Government may well insist that attempts are made to lessen the blow as it has done in the past.

Earlier this month the Energy Bill provided for a maximum of £45m to be paid to the electricity industry in compensation for starting projects which were specifically geared to creating employment. The largest of these projects, the oil-fired power station at Ince in Cheshire, was ordered by the CEGB at the Government's request to help job prospects in the heavy electrical machinery industry in the North-west.

The longer-term debate on an energy policy is likely to be some time in its formulation and after the first forum meeting, working parties are now working on specific issues. The coal and electricity industries have made their formal statements and at least each knows where the other stands. However, Mr Hawkins has made it abundantly clear that he is quite happy to burn more coal in his power stations provided he is able to sell more electricity. He will sell more electricity, provided it is priced competitively. Hence the call for more coal from low-cost pits. But for some time ahead coal will be a principal fuel used in the generation of electricity.

The author is Industrial Correspondent, The Times.

Peter Brotherhood

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Another blow for the non-voter

If the Conservatives' ill-fated Companies Bill and continued pressure from Whitehall, the Stock Exchange and the big investment institutions had failed to convince diehards that the day of the non-voting share was numbered, then the Rank Organisation rumpus the other day must have done.

In fairness to J. Lyons, though, which announced enfranchisement proposals yesterday, the idea has been under consideration for some time, but if the public comment is that the "trend of public opinion" suggests that the time is right, privately it is admitted that Rank's experience was a factor.

More specifically, though, Lyons wants to raise money by rights, and it acknowledges that that would have been difficult if not impossible without enfranchisement in the present climate.

Nevertheless, the complications of giving votes at Lyons seem to have been enormous in view of the extraordinary capital structure. Rothschilds, who incidentally masterminded the Rank enfranchisement, advising the company and J. Henry Schroder Wagg advising the controlling families, seem to have found a way through however, including an ingenious option for the voters to take warrants as compensation. What those warrants are worth—with subscription at 200p between 1976 and 1986 against an ex-rights price of 127p now—is anybody's guess, but the family holders were apparently attracted by the idea.

As someone, perhaps unkindly, said yesterday they represent an optimistic surtax-payers' alternative.

Mr B. F. W. Scott, chairman of Lucas Industries: first-half profits up 60 per cent.

J. Lyons

A mere bagatelle

Vith no real profits momentum xpected for another two years, . Lyons's rights issue yesterday ould have been timed more appily, especially in the light f the hefty 1-for-3 call. But ie rights bandwagon has been iowing signs of running out of 'eam recently—with several ımpanies being forced to ffer ore generous terms—so time as not exactly on Lyons's side.

The company has been living ith its huge debt burden for me time now and only last ıly was being quite candid out the absolute need for the sh realized from property les. Nevertheless, the £10½m ıll at 105p a share is a mere agatelle in relation to overall orrowings of £236m and it will eave gearing virtually nchanged at 184 per cent.

Lyons main concern at the oment is the damage that the ll of sterling has wrought on ans in foreign currencies. ather more than half of the 36m is in currencies other an sterling: and only half of at is financed domestically overseas subsidiaries, where e balance sheet strain is to me extent mitigated by the ost to assets from the lower erling rate.

At a time when Lyons was oping to reduce its scale of rrowings slightly, they have en inflated by around 10 per nt as a result of sterling's eakness and any further de-ine could bring Lyons up ainst the borrowing limits posed by the loan stock trust eds.

The rights issue also looks be an expensive way of raisg money, particularly as the terest saving is likely to be tweighed by the higher cost the dividend given Lyons CT problems.

Meanwhile, Lyons estimate profits in the year to March of £10m against last year's 64m is in line with stockarket expectations though the 5m exceptional debit (against st year's credit of £2.6m) ostly arising from spending on e new bakery complex is rger than expected.

A yield of 9.2 per cent on the rights price of 127p underines the caution about Lyons in the market. That is likely to mean that the underwriters have to work hard for their money, particularly as it is not certain if the family interests, who control 6-7 per cent of the equity, will take up their rights.

Prudential Assurance

Profits back to growth

Prudential's results offer a clear perspective on the hiatus suffered by the growth in policyholders' and shareholders' surpluses from life business in 1974 and, in Pru's case at least, on how strongly this growth has resumed since.

In 1974, the total surplus on life business declined by 12 per cent to £136.5m with a fall of similar magnitude in policyholders' bonus to £128m and a 5 per cent drop, to £8.8m, in the transfer to profit and loss account.

The surplus depends, of course, partly upon the actuarial rate of interest used in valuing assets and liabilities of the life fund. A higher rate—adopted by many life offices in 1974 in line with general interest rates and to compensate for reduced asset values—reduced the surplus, while the reduction in valuation rates last year had the reverse effect.

Policyholders' bonus rose 37 per cent also, to £174.7m, and the transfer to P & L by 30 per cent to £11.5m. On top of this, Pru more than halved its underwriting loss on non-life business to £2m (suggesting heavy reserve provisioning in 1974) and raised investment income by 54 per cent to £9.7m, giving an after-tax transfer to P & L of £4.1m on this side. Other net income, taking benefit from the rights issue, rose from £1.9m to £2.5m.

The sum of all this was below the line profits of £18.1m which (this time) comfortably cover the fully increased dividend. At 139p, up 4p yesterday, Pru shares yield exactly 6 per cent —a fair premium over other companies in a sector which arguably is undervalued relative to the market in terms of dividend growth record and potential.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £380m
Net Profit £18.1m (£12.1m)
Dividend gross 8.326p (7.711p)

Lucas Industries

Performing strongly

Lucas shares have been one of the top performers in the current bull market and there was an appreciable short-term bull position in the shares ahead of yesterday's interim statement, partly on hopes that the figures would be accompanied by news of a dividend boosting rights issue.

That there is no rights issue at this stage may not in fact preclude one at a later stage—Lucas has no immediate need for more cash—though how far the group would be prepared to go in any funding to make a substantial improvement on a prospective yield of 3.9 per cent is another matter.

Meanwhile, first half profits were fully up to the market's best expectations, with the United Kingdom contribution to the pre-tax total moving up from £8m to £13m and the overseas contribution from £5.1m to £8m.

At home, the diesel equipment business has continued to perform strongly, while last year's cost cutting exercise has more than offset continuing slack demand on the car component side and the aircraft division has produced the expected recovery from last year's negligible return. Overseas, improved market share in a recovering market have produced significant volume gains on the continent, while roughly doubled minorities point to good performances in South America and India.

The second half growth rate was clearly not going to be anything like the 60 per cent seen in the first six months. But while the United Kingdom diesel operations are probably on something of a plateau until the new Gillingham capacity comes on stream next year, there should now be improved demand on the car side to work through.

With the aircraft and overseas sides also going well, Lucas could be heading for around £45m pre-tax for the full year, pointing to a *p/e of* around 7 with the shares at 288p—a rating that should keep the shares moving in line with the market even if the best of the share's relative strength must now be counted as over.

Interim: 1975-76 (1974-75)
Capitalization £150m
Sales £328m (£269m)
Pre-tax profits £21m (£13.1m)
Dividend gross 2.33p (2.12p)

Royal Worcester

Consumer resistance

The effects of the economic recession finally caught up with Royal Worcester in 1975. As the year progressed the group ran into increasing consumer resistance throughout its range of its tableware, industrial ceramics and electrical components businesses in the second half.

In the end, profits for 1975 slumped by 46 per cent to £1.24m on sales up by £2.5m at £19.1m. But despite the slide in profits, Royal Worcester has matched its forecast of higher dividends, made at the time of last August's £1m rights issue, and a final dividend of 4.9p per share gross is proposed making 8p for the year, an effective increase of 43 per cent.

The market for Royal Worcester's table and ornamental china, porcelain and earthenware became increasingly sensitive to price movements in 1975. And although the division's sales increased by just under a third in the year to £9.2m, the rise, made up one third by volume, two thirds by price increases, left this side £176,000 down in profits terms at £734,000. Overseas sales account for 27 per cent of the tableware side's sales.

On the industrial ceramics front, the simple facts of low capital goods expenditure throughout industry hit demand and profits fell from 1974's £305,000 to £198,000 on near static turnover.

Royal Worcester now accepts that it will have to "fight every inch of the way" in the current year; it will be an uphill struggle until both consumer and industrial demand picks up.

The shares dropped 8p to 116p on the results, where they lean heavily on a still well-covered dividend yielding 6.9 per cent.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £6.89m
Sales £19.12m (£16.59m)
Pre-tax profits £1.24m (£2.26m)
Earnings per share 12.0p (22.9p)
Dividend gross 8.0p (5.581p)

The food industry: making price restraint palatable

Three things will ensure that 1976 marks a turning point for the food processing industry in Britain. First, the marked change in the pattern of consumer spending; second, the onset of an entirely new species of government control mechanism; and, thirdly, the impact of the British decision to stay in the EEC.

The change was outlined by Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and Mr Ronald Halstead, president of the Food Manufacturers' Federation, at this year's federation conference.

Mrs Williams: "Ours is a rapidly aging country and the old don't eat as much as the young. The disposition of spending will move towards things like heating and away from things like food."

Mr Halstead: "From 1960 to 1975 expenditure on food as a percentage of personal disposable income has declined steadily from 23.2 per cent to 16.6 per cent."

He went on to show that spending on food has been less buoyant than in other areas since 1970. Taking that year as 100, food has reached 100.2, clothes 116.3, beer 117.5, cars 130.2, savings 178.4 and real disposable income 119.7. "In other words spending on the 'good life' has increased", he said.

The first shot in the food industry campaign being conducted ahead of the end of the present price controls in July was fired this week. Ministers, food companies and trade union leaders received a booklet from the Food and Drink Industries Council called *How Safe Is Your Job?*

It said that statutory price controls had pinched investment, led to redundancies and done damage out of proportion to advantages gained by shoppers. The council wants the present controls to be replaced by retrospective examination of profit margins by a statutory body without day-to-day power to veto price rises.

Food companies are also in the front line for planning agreements. Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food say that such pacts have existed in British farming for years. Therefore, they argue, since food processing is not far removed from agriculture, the industry is not far removed from planning agreements either.

Now that planning agreements are in the air, officials at the ministry have begun to look at the annual farm price review in a new light. They see it as a kind of cosmic planning agreement in which prices and output for sectors of agriculture are set out for the coming year.

Mr Robert Moss, the ministry official who has had preliminary talks with food companies about planning, said: "To move towards planning agreements would not require either side to enter completely new territory. Decision-taking by government and industry in regard to agriculture has already actively involved the sharing and joint discussion of plans and objectives."

Dr Keith Dexter, director-general of Adas, the ministry's development and advisory service, said he had had detailed discussions about policy with one of the largest British companies which supply inputs to farmers. "This idea of having discussions not only with individual farmers but with the ancillary industries as well is my idea of what a planning agreement is all about", he said.

It is therefore ironic that the sector chosen for first discussions, dairying, has told officials that it does not want to adopt such agreements. No part of the food processing industry is closer to agriculture than dairying, with the possible exceptions of meat manufacture and bacon-curing.

If the industry is squeezed at home, what are its chances abroad? Less than a year ago Mr Alfred Morris, Minister for the Disabled and former parliamentary private secretary to Mr Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said in the EEC referendum campaign: "Our adherence to the common agricultural policy is a mug's game."

He was dismissed with a lofty chortle at the time, but the food processing industry might now be tempted in private to agree with him. Powerful as the industry is at home, it has not managed yet to come near matching the lobbying power of farmers in Brussels. It fears that the price awards in the 1976 farm price review will stimulate output of some raw materials beyond desirable levels by means of price rises that will arouse further consumer resistance.

Moreover, in the words of Mr Halstead: "When we went into Europe food manufacturers in other EEC countries had some fears about our competitive strength. The operation of the Price Code over the past three years has seriously undermined our position, both materially and psychologically."

Relaxation of price and profit controls to encourage investment will enable industry to make more profit. That in turn will give it more scope to recapture some of its lost share of shoppers' money.

Since the Conservative Government fell in 1974 the industry has at the same time learnt gradually to replace the rigid stance of total opposition to all price controls with a more flexible response.

The point was underlined in the economic review for this year of the Trades Union Congress. "Generalized criticisms of the price control system which do not carry any conviction may be obscuring specific points of difficulty, which the TUC would be prepared to consider in relation to improved investment and the broader goals of the industrial strategy."

The passage was quoted by Mrs Williams at the food manufacturers' conference. She was telling them that it was unnecessary for them to be dragged, kicking and screaming, into the last quarter of the twentieth century.

Hugh Clayton

Greek fears of a Trojan horse

Mario Modiano in Athens

A deliberate slowdown in private industrial investment has prompted the Greek government to set up a state agency which will invest wherever private initiative tends to lag. This is expected to spur reluctant Greek businessmen to end their boycott or else watch the state take over the best investment opportunities in the country.

If Greece is to join the EEC as its tenth member without too many tears, massive industrial investments are needed now. But Greek industrialists show reluctance to invest for two reasons.

First, there is the continuing world recession and the resulting uncertainty which inevitably reflects on the Greek economy. Above all, there is the deepening crisis in shipping which had been a steady source of venture capital for Greece.

Secondly, there is the scepticism with which Greek businessmen view what they call the government's "socialmania"—an opening to the left which they consider to be lethal. They argue that the government's lavish social and financial concessions to labour, the growing tax burden on capital and wealth and the uncertainty engendered by the revision of industrial contracts signed during the dictatorship are deterring investors.

The Greek manufacturers made their misgivings public with unusual candour early this month when their association remonstrated against what it described as a concerted campaign by the press and the politicians to discredit them as ruthless profiteers. The association gave warning that if the Greek government wanted increased investments at a time of recession and high risk it should imitate other western governments which gave generous incentives and subsidies to industry.

The government reacted to the "provocation" of the industrialists by reminding them that they paid virtually no corporate tax and they should realize that times had changed—free enterprise in 1976 was not what it had been in 1918, 1936 or even 1950. "One almost feels that the industrialists will claim to be the victims of social injustice", a government spokesman said.

The truth is that Greek industrialists saw with scepticism the effects of the restoration of democracy in Greece two years ago. Under the defunct dictatorship they had been spared the frequent labour strikes and the unpalatable parliamentary controls.

What undermined their confidence was the Damoclean sword of a provision in the new constitution empowering the government to take over, or force its participation in, any business or utility regarded as monopolistic.

These misgivings were strengthened by a recent speech of Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Prime Minister, at the inauguration of the new state agency for investment. He said that his government had "no dogmatic prejudices".

"Our only criterion", he added, "is the economic and social interest of the people. We often apply policies that are far more progressive than the policies of many western countries ruled by socialists."

Mr Karamanlis said he did not really believe there was an investments boycott in Greece. Businessmen surely realized that in view of the hoped for membership of the EEC their businesses could hardly survive without large-scale investment for expansion. The new agency would be complementary to private initiative, he said, but wherever private capital lagged or hesitated, it would supplant it altogether.

The agency is a consortium controlled by four state-owned banks led by the National Bank of Greece, with a capital of £40m. Known as the "Greek Industrial & Mineral Investments Corporation" (Elevma), it proposes to concentrate on investments related to the exploitation of the country's vast mineral resources.

The founders of Elevma assert that their intentions towards private capital are strictly honourable: their corporation will concentrate on investments that private initiative spurns either because they involve vast amounts of capital, which they cannot afford or are unwilling to risk, or because the feasibility studies are too costly, or because private investors are not aware of the country's overall development needs.

The consortium plans to make investments worth $1,500m in the next few years and estimates that the full exploitation of known mineral resources in Greece should yield about $700m revenue a year.

Greek industrialists are known to have resented this sudden incursion of state business in what had been for decades their exclusive domain. They fear that this financial giant will offer unfair competition because it can draw its funds from the state banks.

They have been assured, however, that investors will be welcome to participate in the industrial companies created by Elevma, or even take them over, provided they can guarantee that they can make them work profitably.

A thousand million dollars for their thoughts

A thousand million dollars will buy a lot of research and development. This is the amount International Business Machines spends on R and D each year.

Of this total about 10 per cent, or about £50m, goes on research. In terms of people IBM research occupies more than 1,600, of whom over 1,200 are scientists and technicians. At the top of this group is Dr Ralph Gomory, IBM vice-president and director of research.

Prodigal in people and in projects, IBM's research effort spans a wide range from basic science to applied technology. Examples from various parts of the spectrum were given last week at a European press seminar at La Hulpe, near Brussels.

What IBM does today, the rest of the industry reacts to tomorrow. These are some of the "today" projects at the computer giant's laboratories in Yorktown Heights, New York; San José, California; and Zurich, Switzerland:

Materials science is important in understanding the properties—electronic, magnetic and structural—of a range of materials, from semiconductor and metal alloys to organic compounds.

The use of electron beams and X-rays in producing ever smaller integrated circuit patterns has led to significant offshoots. One of these is a new X-ray microscopy technique which enables biological specimens to be observed at magnifications higher than those attainable with optical microscopes.

In the science of computer logic and memory, as in other computer-related projects, IBM is working both on developing existing techniques and on devising alternative technologies.

In extending the existing silicon-based transistor technology, IBM scientists have made experimental field-effect transistor memory elements that enable about five million binary digits to be packed into one square inch. In ordinary language, this means 30 times the density of memory units in IBM computers announced only three and a half years ago.

In parallel, brand-new memory and logic technology is being pursued, based on the phenomenon of superconductivity (which makes some metals lose their electrical resistance at temperatures close to absolute zero).

As predicted by Brian Josephson, a British Nobel Prize-winning physicist, electrons can "tunnel" through a very thin insulating layer between two superconductive electrodes in two distinct ways. This has made possible experimental devices which switch from one type of tunnelling to the other in only 10 picoseconds (there are one million million picoseconds in a second).

Present-day computer circuits, by contrast, take 100 times as long—and generate 10,000 times as much heat. Josephson-based computer circuitry will be a long-term effort—it represents a complete departure from present electronic technology—but is regarded as probably the most promising new technology for extending the performance of computer logic and memory.

In magnetic storage, again, a new technology is opening up which potentially could provide mass storage at low cost, free from the mechanical problems of discs and tapes. This is the technology of "magnetic bubbles".

In this context the bubbles are tiny regions of reversed magnetization in a thin magnetic film. They can be moved around and sensed by metal patterns on the surface of the film.

Using this technique, it may be possible to store more than 100 million binary digits on a square inch of material.

On the software side of computer science, which in general is still struggling to catch up with the accelerating advances in hardware performance, IBM's research includes an attempt to build up a sound theoretical understanding of programming.

If this could be achieved, interactions between programs could be anticipated and the programs themselves could be made more general, easier to write, and more efficient. At present, many programs are too complicated and their real performance and potential defects are not fully known.

Two lines of research are directed towards automatic programming—one aimed at unskilled computer users and the other at systems development by professionals. For the former, the objective is to enable the computer user simply to complete a form, from which the machine generates a program to carry out the required task.

As systems built around large data-bases grow in importance, IBM is working on ways to arrange files so that they can easily be maintained and queried by a wide range of users who know little or nothing about how the file is organized.

New modelling techniques are being developed. Here the aim is to predict the performance of specific computing systems without having physically to construct them first.

But construction of at least one new prototype computer is under way in the research division. This is an experimental mini-computer which incorporates a number of new concepts: certain instructions will be executed directly by hardware rather than software: and an "intelligent" software compiler will take over some functions which conventionally are performed in hardware.

Computer-controlled 'robot' to assemble components

Computer applications, also, are being investigated by IBM research scientists, besides the large "development" effort which the company is mounting in this area. Automation research on the mechanical assembly of components is one such application. Here the aim is to program the complex sequences of repetitive assembly operations.

The research division has built a general-purpose, robot-like assembler which is controlled by a small computer. Eventually, this could emerge as a product which would automate many medium-scale assembly operations.

IBM describes the assembler as a programmable, adaptable machine tool, not a robot. Though it is similar to work carried out by machine-intelligence researchers at Edinburgh University, its designers insist they are not in the artificial intelligence business.

Programming at different levels is involved, up to the kind of "high-level" instructions almost like those one would give to a human assembler. At this level the computer would be given a description of individual parts, the various fixtures in the assembly area and the operations to be performed on the parts.

The program would have some ability to recognize and inspect parts, and to orient them properly for assembly. It would also have some ability to plan—to find a trajectory, for example, that would avoid obstructions in the work area.

Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Business Diary: £149,585 well spent? • Floating dock

o July 23, 1969, Anthony rosland, now Secretary of ate for the Environment and ntender for the leadership of e Labour Party, but then esident of the Board of Trade, mmissioned a report on small rms.

When, two years or so later, hn Bolton presented the said eport of the Committee of quiry into Small Firms, it as to Crosland's Tory succesr, John Davies, not only BoT resident but also Secretary of tate for Trade and Industry.

Bolton's report said that nall firms were indispensable Britain but were nevertheless n a hiding to nothing, thanks government and City myopia.

The report cost £149,585 of ublic money, not to mention e time of Bolton and his ommittee, as well as that of ll the individuals and comnies who submitted evidence.

The report contained 250,000 ords and spawned 18 research eports and more than 60 ecommendations—with what esult?

Bolton, an accountant who as advised government on erything from health service anagement efficiency to the eform of local government, aid yesterday: "The small irm sector is, if anything, in worse plight than when we nade our report."

Anthony (now Lord) Barber; small businessperson; Denis Healey; and John Bolton: preaching to the unconverted.

He was speaking in London in his role as a director of ICFC-Numas, the management consultancy subsidiary of the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation. Lawrence Tindale, ICFC deputy chairman, was a member of the Bolton Committee.

Diffident and soft-spoken, Bolton unfurled a tale of benign neglect by government, by the clearing banks and by the institutions—speaking from the eleventh floor of the ICFC's Waterloo offices, overlooking the Commons.

Although he was hard on governments of either stripe for burdening small firms with taxation, inflation and paperwork, he was particularly courteous and particularly severe about the clearing banks.

Many banks, he said, restricted the lending freedom of branch managers to £3,000—the same as in 1945—with dire consequences to even the most promising of small firms. ICFC is, of course, jointly owned by the clearers and by the Bank—the Government's agent in the City.

Musical chair

Gordon Parker, the 84-year-old chairman, managing director and founder of Felixstowe Dock and Railway, tendered his resignation at a board meeting yesterday morning. His decision to go along with the rest of Felixstowe's board, severs a 25-year association with the harbour he turned from a back water into the country's most successful private port.

Felixstowe's directors will hand over management of the port to Keith Wickenden's European Ferries group in the next few days. But just how long Wickenden will occupy Parker's chair depends on Parliament.

Wickenden's group has won control of Felixstowe's shares, and now that its offer for the company has gone unconditional Parker and his team are to accept on behalf of their own 3.8 per cent holding and recommend other Felixstowe shareholders to accept before the offer finally closes on April 2.

In spite of these developments the British Transport Docks Board is still pressing ahead with its plans to take over the port.

The board's bid pre-dates the European Ferries offer and was only delayed by the board's need to seek parliamentary approval of the deal. Its enabling Bill passed its second reading in the House of Commons the day before yesterday by a 28 vote majority.

If the Bill gets through its remaining stages in time to receive the Royal Assent before mid-November, when the bid lapses, the docks board will be paying its 150p a share to European Ferries as the new Felixstowe shareholders. The board's chairman, Sir Humphrey Browne, will then inherit the Parker-Wickenden seat.

This elaborate game of musical chairs could be interrupted if parliamentary opposition to the docks board's bill successfully delays its passage until after the mid-November deadline. Petitions for amendments to the Bill have come from Felixstowe's port users association, European Ferries and Trinity College, Cambridge.

The college is one of the principal landlords in the Felixstowe area and opposition within the House of Commons has centred on two distinguished Trinity College graduates, David Lane, Conservative MP for Cambridge, and Enoch Powell, Ulster Unionist MP for South Down.

Despite Mr Powell's and Mr Lane's efforts, Sir Humphrey is still confident that the docks board will be taking over at Felixstowe by the end of the year. And if he fails, Sir Humphrey believes that the Government's ports nationalization programme will get Felixstowe in the end anyway. So the Parker-Wickenden-Sir Humphrey seat could be in for quite a bit of wear over the next few years.

Heard the one about the United States Trade Centre in London and how they called off plans for an exhibition of American security equipment? The exhibition was already booked for Paris and Frankfurt and it was too much trouble to mount a further showing here.

Charles Shaw, the centre's director, is now rather ruefully wishing they'd gone ahead with the idea. Somebody broke into the centre's Langham Place offices on Monday night, chiselled open a safe and made off with £190 in cash.

Commercial and Business market

Commercial Property

Business Travel

Businesses for Sale

Business Services

Finance & Investment

Business Notices

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING OF CREDITORS

HUNTERSEAL PAINTS Limited, HUNTERSEAL PAINTS Limited, LATHAM BROWN (Sales) Limited, HOLLIS PAINTS Limited, HUNTER & CO. (Scaffsprayr Limited), HUNTERLEC Limited, HUNT & COMPANY (Manufacturing) Limited

Notice is Hereby Given, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act 1948 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named companies will be held at [illegible] on Friday the second day of April 1976 at 10.15 in the morning for the purpose of having a full Statement of the position of the Company's affairs together with a list of the Creditors of the Company and the estimated amount of their claims laid before them and for the purpose if thought fit of nominating a liquidator and of appointing a committee of inspection. [illegible]

By Order of the Board of Directors, [illegible] Secretary

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE In BANKRUPTCY [illegible] SYDNEY WILLIAM JOHN MILLER [illegible]

RICHARD HUNT, Registrar.

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE In BANKRUPTCY [illegible] JOHN MICHAEL EDWARD BELLORD [illegible]

RICHARD HUNT, Registrar.

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to 1967 LADY PLESSEY PROPERTIES Limited

[illegible]

M. J. LONDON, Liquidator.

In the Matter of SMUGGLERS LANE PROPERTIES Limited [illegible]

R. N. MILLAR.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

STRATHCLYDE REGIONAL COUNCIL [illegible] Bills [illegible]

PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENT SESSION 1975-76 GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (MONEY)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Greater London Council [illegible]

P. W. WILSON, [illegible] Parliamentary Agents

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION [illegible]

PUBLIC NOTICES

NEW TOWNS ACT 1965 NOTICE OF DRAFT ORDER UNDER SECTIONS 1 AND 2 THE DRAFT HARLOW NEW TOWN (DESIGNATION) AMENDMENT ORDER 197

[illegible] objection is duly made to the proposed order and is not withdrawn, the Secretary of State shall, before making the order, cause a public local inquiry to be held with respect to the objection and shall consider the report of the person by whom the inquiry was held.

Dated this Eleventh day of March 1976.

J. MARLOW,
Assistant Secretary,
Department of the Environment.

NEW TOWNS ACT 1965
THE DRAFT HARLOW NEW TOWN (DESIGNATION) AMENDMENT ORDER 197

Should there be objections to the above named draft order the Secretary of State for the Environment proposes to hold a public local inquiry on 20th June into any objections duly made and not withdrawn. The Secretary of State has decided to give this advance warning of the date of such inquiry for the benefit of any person wishing to appear but formal notice of the time and venue of such an inquiry will be given nearer the date.

J. MARLOW,
Assistant Secretary,
Department of the Environment.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity—Somerset Maugham Trust Fund.
Scheme for the amendment of Trust Deed dated 13th May, 1946.
Ref.: 212403-A1-L1.
The Charity Commissioners have made an Order ESTABLISHING a SCHEME for this and other purposes. Copies can be obtained by written request to the Charity Commission, 14 Ryder Street, London, S.W.1, quoting ref. no. 212403-A1-L1, and may also be seen at that address.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Exxon Corp hits out at critics of oil majors

From Frank Vogl
Washington, March 25

The Exxon Corporation, the world's lergest company, strongly criticized people who attack multinational companies today and especially those congressmen now seeking to promote legislation to break up the major oil companies.

Exxon said the attacks are based on false impressions and "we cannot afford to let these misconceptions persist".

It states in its annual report for 1975, issued today, that the "punitive legislation" proposed to break up the oil companies is yet another attack on multinational corporations that is symptomatic "of a belief that they (multinationals) are not accountable to any one country's government and therefore, by implication, are accountable to no one".

The company maintains that legislation to break up the oil companies could disrupt the oil industry for years, that it would have exactly the contrary effect of its designed purpose of reducing energy costs and increasing industry competition and that it would fragment the financial and technological capabilities of the industry.

Exxon maintains that it is accountable to its shareholders, to governments of countries where it operates, to its customers, employees, suppliers, affiliated companies and to some cases to "supragovernmental agencies".

Nowhere in the report is there a mention of the disclosures made last year by the Senate Sub-Committee on Multinational Companies that revealed that Exxon had in recent years made payments of over $40m for political purposes in Italy and that a special company committee of investigation had been set up.

The report outlines Exxon's vast multinational activities, the company notes, for example, that in the area of capital and exploration expenditures its outlays last year rose 24 per cent to $4,520m, with particularly large and significant projects including spending of over $400m on North Sea developments.

The company stressed that for years to come the world is going to have to be greatly dependent on OPEC for oil supplies; but Exxon is increasing its efforts to develop energy resources outside the OPEC area. Fully 90 per cent of its spending on exploration and energy production facilities was last year concentrated in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and other industrial countries.

The company's revenues last year rose by 6.5 per cent to $48,761m, its assets increased 5.4 per cent to $32,839m, and earnings fell 17.4 per cent to $2,503m.

Stock markets

Second-line stocks in demand

The emphasis swung to second-line stocks yesterday and in both quality and quantity the session proved to be the best of the week so far.

At 7,078, bargains were more than 1,000 higher than on any previous day, though with the leaders neglected this was not reflected in the *FT* Index which closed just 0.2 better, at 406.3, having lost 1.5 between 3 pm and the close.

The one adverse factor was the proximity of the Labour poll result, but even here the conviction that a moderate will eventually emerge as the winner tended to lessen the effect.

On the fixed-interest side, gilts moved erratically with final gains of up to three-eighths.

Against a deteriorating industrial background, British Leyland turned out to be a rather surprising active share and at the close were 2½p better to 30p. Also in motors, Lucas Industries were 2p off at 228p after recouping most of an earlier 7p slip which arose from slight disappointment with the figures.

In foods, a £10½m rights issue from J. Lyons tended to depress and the "A" shares themselves gave up 6p to 134p. But a return to profits boosted Bernard Matthews 10p to 100p in this market while J. B. Eastwood were a firm 59p in sympathy.

Oil dealers are expecting a placing soon of some of the 5m to 6m Shell shares still held by Burmah. An unidentified line was sold yesterday—not thought to be Burmah—and the shares quickly lost 5½p to 408½p.

Another to shine was Rowntree Mackintosh where the proximity of figures stimulated interest to the tune of an 11p rise to 201p. After earlier weakness because of the decision to block a share sale, Norwest Holst recouped 6p to 50p while the court decision against its Murphy subsidiary clipped 3p to 36p from London & Northern.

With freight rates starting to rise, the shipping sector was well above the average in tone. The best was Reardon Smith where talk that the group may be near to fixing one of two oil rigs with an oil company boosted the "A" 9p to 70p. The speculative Furness Withy put on another 7p to 216p with Hunting Gibson 4p better at 161p and Lofs up a penny to 32½p. Runciman was another good spot at 123p, firmer by 123p.

Among the "blue chips" prices were narrowly mixed at the end. Issues to move ahead were Turner & Newall, still benefiting from results and up 4p to 165p. Fisons 2p to 362p and ICI 1p to 396p. The other side of the coin saw Unilever give up 4p to 444p, Metal Box 2p to 273p and Courtaulds 2p to 147p.

The big engineers had another good day with John Brown favoured at 93p, up 3p and Hawker Siddeley moving ahead 2p to 422p. But Tube Investments were hit by profit-taking after Wednesday's gains and lost 6p to 366p while Babcock & Wilcox also reacted, 2p to 78p.

Electricals were more mixed than of late, some issues losing ground late in the day. Hoover, after early strength, was unchanged at 315p, with GEC adding 2p to 160p and Thorn "A" easing a couple of points to 266p. In after-hours trading, the last named went even easier after the announcement of Sir Jules Thorn's retirement.

There was some solid demand for paper shares with both the majors, Reed 7p to 284p and Bowater 3p to 204p, having good days. News International dropped 7p to 164p on profit-taking following the results while Liverpool Post put on 2p to 103p after figures deemed to be encouraging.

In the financial sector, both National Westminster 6p to 232p and Barclays 5p to 290p proved to be soft spots among the clearers. Both Lloyds 220p and Midland 275p were unchanged.

Insurances had a feature in Prudential, up 4p to 139p after their statement, while other bright spots in the sector came from Standard Chartered 7p to 387p, Union Discount 10p to 335p, Schroders 10p to 345p, Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank 6p to 334p and Australia & New Zealand Bank 7p to 395p.

Properties were also in fairly good form. Among the best were Slough Estates 3p to 87p, MEPC 2p to 74p, Great Portland 2p to 232p, Property & Reversionary "A" 3p to 183p and Peachey 1½p to 28½p.

Oils had a mixed day with BP putting on 4p to 596p but Shell, where there was reported to be a good deal of selling, losing 5½p to 408½p. Golds managed to get back earlier falls of 30p while tins and Australian mines were both good markets.

Disappointment with the results from Royal Worcester had the shares down 8p to 116p, while the reverse was true of A. Gallenkamp and the price firmed 10p to 136p. Black & Edgington pleased and were a couple of points better at 122p at the end.

After hours Crane Fruehauf shaded a penny to 21p following sharply lower earnings and the omission of a final dividend and a lower return left Central Wagon down by 4p to 20p. Spong & Company went up 2p to 35p after results.

Aquis Securities' auditors picked up the directors' cautious view that the property group's major asset, the 39,300 sq ft Atlas House in Cheapside, EC2, could now have a market worth of £3m or £4m less than its £9.2m book value. Aquis has no plans, and no need to sell the block and when the lease reverts in 1979 the 65 per cent-controlled associate of Guardian Royal Exchange will be in for a major rent boost. The shares are 16p.

Gilts moved forward once more. "Shorts" were very very busy, with interest centred on the Treasury 10½ per cent 1979 stock. Prices rose by ¼ point generally, with only a slight reverse about midday.

"Longs" were not so active, but once again benefited from steady buying. Dealers were unable to identify any special influences. Most stocks showed gains of ¼ point.

Equity turnover on March 24 was £62.21m (17,065 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were British Leyland, BP, Burmah, ICI, British American Tobacco, Tube Investments, Fisons new, Associated Portland Cement, De La Rue, Grand Metropolitan, Lucas, Marks & Spencer, B. Matthews, Ladbroke, Reardon Smith, Sheaf Steam, Standard Chartered, Weyburn Engineering, and Rowntree.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Wm Bate (20p) Fin	2.8	2.45	—	3.85	3.5
Black & Edgington (50p) Fin	2.87	1.99*	1/7	5.62	6.47*
Brunton (25p) S. Int	3.19	2.99	—	5.7	5.34
Crane Fruehauf (10p) Fin	0.44	0.58	24/6	0.89	0.83
A. Gallenkamp (25p) Int	2	1.78	21/5	—	3.87
L'pool Daily Post (50p)	3.72	3.48	30/4	5.91	5.54
Lucas Inds (£1) Int	1.5	1.37	—	—	5.24
Magnolia (10p) Fin	1.52	1.43	28/5	2.19	2.06
Bernard Matthews (25p) Fin	6.01	Nil	10/5	7.51	Nil
Pittard Gp (25p) Fin	1.75	2	—	3.38	3.17
Prudential Assc (5p) Fin	3.41	3.07	—	5.41	5.07
Royal Worcester (25p) Fin	3.25	3.59	—	5.2	3.74
F. W. Thorpe (10p) Int	0.55	0.5	—	—	1.19
T.P.T. (20p) Fin	2.92	1.74	17/5	2.92	2.74
Winsor & Newton (25p)	5.01	4.67	—	7.01	6.57

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. *For 15 months.

Anglo American batch of mines show optimism

From the Anglo American Corporation stable comes a clutch of annual reports. Mr D. A. Etheridge, chairman of Vaal Reefs Exploration and Mining reports that both tonnage and grade were hit in the first three months by the exodus of 33 per cent of the labour force.

He adds that Vaal Reefs now hoists and mines 3.5 times as much ore as an average South African gold mine, and accounts for 9 per cent of South Africa's gold output.

The chairman is not disheartened by the International Monetary Fund's plans to sell gold. He sees signs that some Central Banks intend to take part, and other surplus countries, he thinks, will augment their gold holdings in the next four years. Demand for gold from the jewellery and other industries has picked up, and hoarding is growing.

Mining

This year Vaal Reefs plans an output of 6.73m tons milled against last year's 6.02. But the *grade will probably go down* from 10.19 grams a ton to 9.8 grams.

For East Daggafontein Mr N. F. Oppenheimer, chairman says that State help could be withdrawn at the end of this year. If so, the mine would close and the break up value is "not significant". Mr Oppenheimer also takes the chair at South African Land & Exploration. In this annual review the chairman says:

"The gold price, we believe, will not fall below current levels ..for any prolonged period". But at best, underground operations might go on until the end of 1978. The mine has a costly development programme, and the directors are thinking of ways and means of raising money.

The annual report of Western Deep Levels, chaired by Mr H. F. Oppenheimer shows an output target for 1976 of 3.24m tons milled at a grade of 15.5 grams a ton. Last year the company milled nearly 3.1m tons at a grade of 15.42 grames a ton.

Mr H. F. Oppenheimer also heads the new Elandsrand Gold Mining. Its annual accounts show that it spent R21.6m last year and that it plans to spend on capital account R25m in 1976. Elandsrand may need to raise more money early in 1977, a bit sooner than foreseen in the September 1975 prospectus.

B Matthews rebound and better times ahead

By Ashley Druker

Turkey producer Bernard Matthews bounced back with a vengeance in 1975. Reporting a record second-six months, the group made good its promise of a "substantial" recovery with pre-tax profits of £1.05m for the year against losses of £729,000.

Even more encouraging, chairman Mr B. T. Matthews looks to another big improvement this year. Understandably the shares duly rose sharply.

Sales were slightly lower at £8.6m, but earnings a share rebounded from a loss of 8.89p to earnings of 11.8p. The group also resumes dividends, with a total of 11.6p gross.

Trading in the second-half maintained the upswing. The year also ended with a bank balance of £304,000 against an overdraft of £1.8m.

Adjusted 1975 earnings of Armour le Grys (bought in January) were £278,000. Combining the results with those of the group would have raised earnings a share to 15.25p.

Feed prices have risen since the last harvest, the chairman says, but the bulk of annual requirements has already been secured. A steady trade also continues in processed products.

The Great Witchingham factory is now licensed to export turkeys to Common Market countries. This, he adds, will greatly expand the potential market for group products and will "significantly" increase exports this year.

Selling prices are firm and forward orders are well ahead of the same time in 1975. The group and Armour le Grys are both trading profitably. He looks forward to a "substantial" improvement in profitability from both companies in the current year.

Woes of Crane Fruehauf

The course of events for the Crane Fruehauf trailer and container group in 1975 was disappointingly erratic. After emerging from the first quarter reasonably unscathed, a profit slide began at half time. After that the directors hoped that they had stemmed the slide.

Instead, pre-tax profits in the year to December 27 plummeted from £1.95m to £111,000, on a turnover down from £35.4m to £33.7m. After the first six months losses of £297,000 replaced profits of £822,000.

The latest pre-tax profit was struck after a nil special provision against one of £250,000. At the attributable level the loss was £208,000 compared with a profit of £758,000.

The tax charge was £138,000 against £1.09m. The group has to pay some tax because the fall in the value of the pound meant that a loss of £112,000 had to be written off relating to a Eurodollar loan. It has been assumed that this loss will not be allowable for corporation tax.

It is something that the year's dividend goes up from 1.26p gross to 1.37p.

In September the directors reported that liquidity had improved and current short-term borrowings were as low as at any time as in the preceding 18 months. Prospects for export business seemed better, while the fall in home demand seemed to have halted.

Cent. Wagon chief quits after loss

By Ronald Pullen

Heavy losses of £400,000 at its Leeds hydraulic engineering factory coupled with wafer-thin margins on the steel stockholding side pushed Central Wagon into the red in the second half of 1975.

After the near-halving of first-half pre-tax profits to £782,000, the full year's profits come out at £510,000 compared with 1974's exceptionally high £2.04m ahead of writing-off £500,000 goodwill relating to the Leeds factory.

Pre-interest steel stockholding profits dropped from £1.42m in 1974 to only £498,000 and the engineering divisions turned in a profit of £56,000 in 1975 against £293,000.

With interest charges increasing by a third to £462,000, only the more restrained fall in earnings from £832,000 to £592,000 at the associated steel stockholding companies prevented Central Wagon turning in an overall loss.

Bank overdrafts have risen from £1.59m to £2.28m, partly to cover much higher steel stocks in front of the expected pick-up in activity. A £300,000 five year loan has also been agreed with the company's bankers and Central Wagon assures shareholders that bank facilities are adequate.

Delays in obtaining planning consent have postponed the start-up of the jointly owned tube mill in Spain.

Because of the poor results and the write-off from reserves, there is no final dividend. Mr Geoffrey Rose yesterday resigned as chairman, and pending the arrival of Sir Frank Figgures as non-executive chairman, Mr Ivan Kingston is assuming the responsibilities of chief executive. The shares dropped 4p to 20p.

Briefly

FEDERAL INDUSTRIES
Company announces acceptances of more than 90 per cent of cash offer for White Pass and Yukon Corporation. Offer open until April 12.

FELIXSTOWE DOCK AND RAILWAY
Chairman, Mr Gordon Parker, urges shareholders who have not yet accepted the offer from European Ferries to do so before April 2 to avoid being left in a minority.

MEGGITT HOLDINGS
Annual meeting told that company is extending one of its factories, even though business upturn is slow and hesitant.

F. W. THORPE
Turnover for half-year to December 31, £1.12m (£965,000). Pre-tax profit, £160,000 (£137,000). Board confident present performance will be maintained for year. Interim payment, 0.55p net (0.5p net).

McKAY SECURITIES
Pre-tax profit for half-year to September 30 last, £81,000 (£39,000). After interest on properties being developed loss was £1,000 (loss of £25,000). Second half should be no less favourable, and final dividend should be at least that paid last time. Interim 1.1p gross.

WILLIAM BATE
Pre-tax profit for 1975, £330,000 (£327,000). Turnover, £7.41m (£7.58m). Total payment, 3.85p net (3.5p net). Board confident 1976's results will be up on 1975.

AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL
Dividend withheld for 1975 against 0.79p net. On turnover of £2.29m against £2.08m, pre-tax loss of £454,000 against loss of £365,000. After extraordinary items of £1.06m against a debit of £862,000, profit of £854,000 (loss of £1.11m). The item relates to currency adjustment.

PRESSAC HOLDINGS
On sales for half year to January 31 of £2.08m (£1.8m), pre-tax profits of £192,000 (£117,000) and earnings a share 2.31p (1.41p). Interim dividend up from 0.69p to 0.76p net.

SPONG
On turnover of £2.4m (£1.63m) for 1975, net profit of £97,000 (£49,000) after tax of £100,000 (£67,000). Total payment up from 1.58p gross to 1.74p.

AUDIO FIDELITY
Pre-tax profit for half year to end-October of £138,000 (£138,000). Full-year's profits should match last year's record £363,000.

BURROUGHS
Detroit.—Although Burroughs Corp's first-quarter earnings probably will not exceed the restated $23.4m or 59 cents a share, of a year earlier, revenue is likely to increase 11 per cent in the same period, Mr Ray W. Macdonald, chairman, said after the annual meeting. However, "earnings improvement may well start in the second quarter with continued improvement throughout the second half".—AP-Dow Jones.

BENTIMA INDUSTRIES
Dividend for 1975 up from 1.58p to 1.74p net. Pre-tax profit £264,000 (£282,000) on turnover of £5.14m (£4.7m).

FINANCIAL NEWS

Hanimex interim profit up 30 per cent

Pre-tax profit of Hanimex Corporation, the London-quoted leisure industries group, was up 30 per cent at $A3.32m, against $A2.55m, in the half-year to December 31 on sales of $A36m, against $A30m.

With the group's plans for new products now being developed, "we can look forward with confidence not only to satisfactory trading in the current financial year, but also to sound growth for the future", says Mr Jack Hannes, chief executive.

Increased activity in product design and development is now beginning to show "very tangible benefits, particularly in tha areas of pocket photography and calculators". Hanimex is becoming a major world supplier of these products.

The British subsidiary improved its performance following reduced operating costs and increased efficiency. "We expect this subsidiary will continue to show profit growth despite the current United Kingdom economic difficulties", says Mr Hannes.

Building of the new Irish factory in Cork is now nearing completion. The board expects plant to be installed by June, with operations beginning about September.

Australian and overseas merchanting divisions recorded higher sales and profits, partly due to improved consumer demand but, more importantly, because of an increase in market shares. International export sales achieved "remarkable growth" which can be expected to continue and contribote substantially to profitability during 1976.

Overseas

Commerzbank to pay more

From Peter Norman
Bonn, March 25

Consolidated group net profits at Commerzbank AG jumped by 36.8 per cent last year to DM189.2m (about £38m). The bank, which is the first of the big three West German private banks to report its results, is to raise its dividend from 8.50 to 9 marks a share. The increased dividend was promised last autumn when the bank raised its capital through a rights issue.

Although Commerzbank did not specify the earnings of the parent bank, the dividend and reserve payments suggest that net profit rose last year to DM145.5m from DM109.6m in 1974.

Kloeckner payout is still uncertain

Duisburg, March 25.—The steel sector's modest recovery so far in the 1975-76 business year is expected to continue but whether Kloeckner-Werke AG shareholders will receive a dividend or not is still completely open, the chairman Herr Herbert Giernow said.

The company has not proposed a dividend for 1974-75 (previous payment six marks). It earlier announced a Dm 65m parent-company operating loss (1973-74 operating profit of between Dm 10m and Dm 15m).

Herr Giernow told a press conference that Kloeckner is currently back in profit but no one can predict how permanent the business uptrend will be.—Reuter.

National Cash

Augsburg.—Turnover for year ended to November 30, rose 3.6 per cent to Dm 476.7m, at National Cash Registars' German subsidiary while pre-tax profits fell due to higher costs. Orders on hand at December 1, stood at Dm 313m (down 8.4 per cent). NCR expects turnover for 1975-76 to be about 10 per cent down because of restructuring. (NCR Gmbh is a 100 per cent subsidiary of National Cash Registers of the United States.)—Reuter.

Kiwi Int upsurge

The directors of Kiwi International report a leap of 235 per cent in trading profits to $A827,326 for the half-year to February 29. This reflects improvement in all the main areas of the group's business and includes benefits derived from the reorganization in Europe.

The group's overseas trading results are converted at exchange rates ruling at the end of February.

The directors believe that the results for the second half of the year are likely to be maintained at a "satisfactory level" and this should enable the continuation of regular half-yearly dividend payments.

Jardine (SE Asia)

Hongkong, March 23.—Last year, the consolidated net profit of Jardine Matheson and Co (South East Asia) Ltd reached $10.3m (Singapore) against $6.6m. The dividend is 20 Hongkong cents (18 cents last time).

Manbre & Garton bidding £3.5m for Hugh Baird

Manbre and Garton, the international commodities and merchanting group, is bidding around £3.5m for Glasgow-based maltsters Hugh Baird & Sons, it was announced last night.

Takeover Panel permission was obtained for Manbre to buy for cash, at 36p per share, the 50 per cent shareholding of the Canadian Malting Co in the group. It has also purchased half the preference capital, at 30p per share.

A formal offer to other shareholders will be sent out within the next few weeks. There will be similar cash terms, as well as an all equity offer. Before the purchase of Canadian Malting's stake Manbre had only a fractional holding in Hugh Baird.

About one third of the shares in issue are controlled by the Hugh Baird board. The group increased its pre tax profits from £684,000 to £868,000 last year.

New Interests
id L'pool Post

A better second half put the brakes on a profit slide at Liverpool Daily Post & Echo last year. Pre-tax profit dropped per cent to £2.81m after an interim downturn of over 32 per cent. In the second six months profits were up 31 per cent.

On a turnover increased from £27.3m to £32m, earnings a stock unit were 12.5p against an adjusted 11.8p. The group raises the total dividend from 8.27p to 9.1p.

A breakdown shows that earnings from newspapers in Britain slipped by about £70,000, but this was offset by an improvement of £112,000 on papers published in Canada. Every other division apart from newspapers in the United Kingdom did better. Tightly controlled costs, effective marketing, and recent capital expenditure all played their part the board says.

Profits from retailing were up per cent, from papermaking and packaging 1.5 per cent, newspapers in Canada 36 per cent. The information systems side also managed to show a small maiden profit.

The outcome for 1975 shows that the group has widened its areas of profitability. Newspapers remain an integral part of activities, but other trading operations "protected the result".

Brandts finance Panamanian project

Brandts has arranged the first export credit loan for a construction project in the Republic of Panama which will finance a hotel project for Complejo Hotelero El Panama SA.

The loan for £4.3m is guaranteed by ECGD and will finance that portion of the El Panama Hotel Project involving goods from the United Kingdom and the services of the United Kingdom contractor, Cementation International. The total amount to be invested in the hotel is US$30m, which is guaranteed by the Republic of Panama.

Export boost in strong Gallenkamp opening

On sales up from £9.42m to £11.38m, pre-tax profit of A. Gallenkamp & Co jumped from £1.03m to £1.88m in the half to December 31. Though cautious on prospects for the full year to end-June, Mr Peter Hallett, chairman of this scientific apparatus and instruments maker, forecasts profits better than 1974-75's £2.49m.

Earnings a share in the half just past were, basic, 13.72p against 7.65p and, fully diluted, 13.57p against 7.18p. The midterm dividend is lifted from 2.47p to 3.08p gross.

Generally, home sales were of similar value to the comparable half. The achievement of its sales objective resulted, says Mr Hallett, from the planned increase of exports. These represent about 40 per cent of total turnover and contributed "very significantly" to the profits earned.

Aluminum offering

Aluminum Co of Canada plans an offering in the international capital market of some 30m(US) principal amount of debentures, due 1988. The offering will be made by an international group of underwriters led by Morgan Stanley International. Aluminum is wholly-owned by Alcan Aluminium.

The proceeds will be used towards financing part of its capital expenditure programme and also for working capital requirements. The debentures will not be offered for sale in the United States or Canada.

Totalisators gets share option to bid

In addition to Ladbroke Group's 15p cash offer for each Totalisators & Greyhound Holdings share announced on February 6, the two boards have now agreed to a share alternative. This comprises one 10p ordinary share in Ladbroke for every seven 5p ordinary shares in Totalisators. Acceptors of the offer will be entitled to retain the 1975 dividend on their Totalisators shares declared yesterday.

Winsor & Newton near £1m in peak year

Recession or no, Winsor & Newton, which makes artists materials has pushed its pre-tax profits for 1975 up from £821,000 to a record £912,000 and looks forward to achieving even better results this year. This could take the group past the £1m mark.

Turnover expanded from £6.44m to £8m and the flow of orders both at home and for export remains buoyant. Earnings a share come out at 13.8p, against 12.7p, while the dividend is raised from 9.95p to 10.7p.

Blackwood Morton returns to black

With sales rising from £12.1m to £12.2m in the six months to December 31 the Blackwood, Morton & Sons group of carpet makers has returned to profits. A loss of £651,000 turned into profit of £512,000 before tax and shareholders will receive a gross dividand of 1.24p, the first payment since 1974. Moreover, the board intends to pay a final unless there is a serious deterioration in the second half.

IMI poised to grow

The money raised by Imperial Metal Industries' £20m two-for-seven rights issue will enable the group to improve its competitiveness and expand by organic growth and acquisition, Sir Michael Clapham the chairman told the annual meeting in Birmingham. The result of the issue will be announced next week, Sir Michael said.

This metal refining, fabricating and slida fasteners subsidiary of Imperial Chemical Industries had a "drab and dispiriting year" in 1975 but the board is confident that the group is well placed to resume profitable expansion as world trading improves.

Le Nickel loan

Luxembourg.—The European Investment Bank (EIB) has granted a loan of 26.1m French francs to help finance expansion of capacity of Societe Metallurgique Le Nickel (SNL). This is in the French overseas territory of New Caledonia, in the South Pacific.

The loan for 12 years with interest at 9.5 per cent has been provided to Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique for onlending to SNL's New Caledonian Ferro-Nickel Mining project. This requires total financing of 150m francs, the bank said.

Ferro-Nickel alloys and sulphurated mixtures rich in nickel from the mine are mostly shipped to an SNL plant at Le Havre, France, for processing into refined products, EIB said.—AP-Dow Jones.

Scottish Life

Mr P. Turcan, the chairman of the Scottish Life Assurance group reports progress in all departments, and notes also that the cost of running tha life office can best be measured by the ratio of life expenses to life premium income. This shows a fall from 14.8 per cent in 1974 to 14.3 per cent in 1975 thanks largely to the rapid growth in premium income.

Share stakes

Marshall Cavendish says that British Printing Corpn has reduced its holding in the company by 75,000 shares and now holds 2.81m shares.

The Rank Organisation reports that as a result of the enfranchisement of the company's "A" ordinary shares, the shareholding of the Eagle Star Insurance and its subsidiaries no longer constitute 10 per cent or more of the company's capital.

Robert R. Stockfis (Manchester) announces that Sheerwood Trust has bought a further 3,000 ordinary shares in the company. It is now interested in 380,829 shares (59.40 per cent).

Bruntons holds steady at £1.7m

Despite the recession and a seven-week unofficial strike, the pre-tax profits of Bruntons (Musselburgh), the Midlothian-based steel products group, fell only slightly from £1.75m to £1.69m last year. Earnings a share are up from 10.25p to 10.48p, and as forecast in October the dividend rises from 7.97p gross to 8.7p.

Turnover shrank from £7.81m to £7.2m but stock appreciation increased by £62,500. The level of activity in the various divisions has hardly altered from that reported in the interim statement last October, except for an increase in the demand for steel strip, the directors state.

Home market sales declined from £6.89m to £6.2m but exports rose from £912,000 to £1m.

Emu Wine board now favours Thos Hardy

The final instalment in the protracted struggle for control of Emu Wine Holdings appears to be in sight. The boards of Emu and Australian group Thomas Hardy & Sons have agraed that the latter's offer of 182½p will be declared unconditional should Hardy acquire more than 50 per cent of Emu.

Meantime the Emu board no longer recommends the Western Australian & Worsted Mills' bid of 170p and instead recommends the Hardy offer. Emu's board will withdraw its own acceptances of the WAW offer, while strongly advising stockholdara who have also accepted to do likewise as soon as possible.

On Wednesday, a circular from the Chaplin family and trust, holding over 32 per cent of Emu, declared their acceptance of the Hardy offer.

TPT looks brighter

Paper-tube manufacturar TPT, an offshoot of American group Sonoco Products, fall away in 1975 from £2.9m to £2.16m pre-tax. Salas were also down, from £18.1m to £16.9m. Earnings a share fell from 7.51p to 5.97p, while it pays a total lifted from 4.17p to 4.49p gross.

The board states that in a tough year for the world's paper and packaging industries, the results are considered satisfactory. On the brighter side, in several countries the recession had levelled out before the year-end. On this note, overall trading results to date in the present term show some improvement on the same period.

Yorkshire Chemicals sells glue division

With effect from April 1, Yorkshire Chemicals has sold the business of its adhesives division to Borden (UK), of Southampton, for a total consideration of £1.05m. Some £300,000 is for stock and book debts, and of the balance £300,000 is payable immediately and £450,000 by equal instalments over the next three years.

The YC board is satisfied that its decision to concentrate on products for the textile and leather industries will ensure that its resources will be directed to those areas with the greatest potential for profitable growth.

Magnolia ahead

Makers of picture-frame mouldings Magnolia Manufacturing reports pre-tax profits for 1975 slightly up from £506,000 to £531,000 pre-tax. This was on turnover of £2.83m against £2.63m. Earnings a share rose from 13.61p to 14.33p. It pays a total dividend increased from 3.13p to 3.37p gross.

In the present term, domestic sales are in excess of the same period, and there are indications of an improvement in the order book. A similar pattern is emerging in its export markets.

Pittard recovers

Although it has not yet returned to the record profit levels of 1972, the Pittard Group of leather tanners and dyers has rebounded from last year's "low" of £496,000 to £1.01m before tax. Sales for 1975 expanded from £9.1m to £10.3m.

The board proposes a one-for-two scrip issue as well as an increase in dividend from 4.85p gross to 5.2p. If the forecast upturn in the British economy materializes, the group's results should reflect this with improved profits.

Garton Cooper dips

A dip in pre-tax profits for 1975 from £674,500 to £645,000 is reported by Garton Cooper, the fasteners and pressings group. Turnover went up from £6.9m to £7.5m. The dividend is raisad from 7.04p to 7.13p gross.

Business appointments

Sir Charles Villiers to leave Courtaulds board

As a result of his appointment as chairman-designate of the British Steel Corporation, Sir Charles Villiers, who is due to retire by rotation from the Courtaulds board in July, will not seek reelection.

Mr N. H. Smith and Mr N. S. Wooding are appointed additional deputy chairmen, and Mr J. A. Gardiner, chief executive of the Laird group, and Mr G. J. Wilkins, chairman and chief executive of Beecham Group, will join Courtaulds as non-executive directors, with immediate effect.

Mr N. Mobbs will be chairman of Slough Estates from April 1 in succession to Mr G. Mobbs, who is retiring. Mr G. Mobbs becomes honorary president.

Mr Christopher Johnson, a director of the Financial Times and managing director of its business enterprises division, has been appointed economic adviser to Lloyds Bank in succession to Mr Jack Winton who is retiring later this year.

Mr Michael Anthony Rich was yesterday appointed a full-time chairman of Industrial Tribunals for Nottingham from April 1. Mr J. T. Plume and Mr D. W. Donaldson will be full-time chairmen of industrial tribunals for London with effect from April 20.

Mr W. J. Eckert and Mr M. L. Givot have joined the board of Azcon.

Mr Charles Stronach has been made regional director of Esso in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Mr A. W. John, who recently retired from the board of Unigate, has been made a director of Property Holding and Investment Trust in place of Mr Geoffrey Singer, who has retired.

Mr C. S. Oldfield has joined the board of Wyseplant.

Mr Brian Baldock has become vice-president of American Express travellers cheque division.

Mr John Porter, partner of Walker Walton Hanson, has been installed as president of the Incorporated Society of Valuers & Auctioneers.

Mr Derrick Wood has gone on to the board of The Berrow's Organisation.

Mr A. J. R. Parker has been made managing director of Cooper Tools.

Mr G. R. Goobey has been appointed chairman of Warnford Investments in place of Mr S. Sebba, who has resigned from the board.

Mr Leo McComish has become managing director of Hills Industries.

Mr Maurice Barnes, senior agricultural adviser with the Cement and Concrete Association, has been elected chairman of the Farm Buildings Association.

Mr George Wharton has become managing director of Diners World Travel.

Mr Bryan Basset has joined the board of Ashdown Investment Trust.

Mr G. H. N. Peel has been made a director of British Tool Manufacturers.

Mr H. R. Angliss has become a director of Bradstock, Blunt & Crawley.

MARKET REPORTS

Metal prices ease back on the LME

In the metals copper condoued its volaole pattero on the London Metal Exchange yesterday with profit taking and stoploss activity causing prices to ease. In ring dealings cash wire bars were £6.25 down on Wednesday afternoon's close and three months dropped £7. At the afternoon close cash wire bars were £9 down on Wednesday at £710.50 and three mooths was £9.50 down at £731.25.

In morning dealings tio remained firm with staodard cash remaining at the overnight

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9½%
First London Secs	9½%
C. Hoare & Co. ..	*9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster ..	9½%
Rossminster ACC's	9½%
Shenley Trust	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 5½%, up to £25,000, 6¼%, over £25,000, 6¾%.

Commodities

£3,702.50 and three months went £2.50 ahead to £3,716. High grade, which was not traded, advanced by £12.50 to £3,730 and three months advanced £5 from the overnight £3,730. At the close, however, standard cash was £15 down at £3,687.50 and three months was £13.50 down at £3,700.

Lead eased marginally in morning dealings. At the afternoon close cash and three mooths were both £2.50 down.

Zinc fell by around £5 in morning dealings and at the afternoon's close cash was £9.75 down and three mooths was £9.875 lower. Silver was just over 2p an ounce down in morning dealings and at the afternoon close was between 3.5p and 3.8p down.

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 25th.—UK: Cattle £24.91 per live cwt (+0.31). Sheep 50.8p per lb E.D.C.W. (+3.0). Pigs £4.90 per 8C.L.W. (+0.08). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 12.9 per cent, average price £25.17 (+0.45). Sheep numbers down 8.0 per cent, average price 51.0d (+3.6). Pig numbers down 15.3 per cent, average price £4.90 (+0.08). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 1.1 per cent, average price £24.12 (−0.35). Sheep numbers down 37.9 per cent, average price £49.9p (+0.8). Pigs, nil.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

DM=Deutschmark Issue
Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Drop in world rubber output

World natural rubber production in 1975 is estimated at 3,295,000 tonnes against a revised 3,435,000 in 1974, the International Rubber Study Group said.

Consumption is estimated at 3,342,500 against a revised 3,505,000 tonnes. Synthetic rubber production totalled 6,542,500 tonnes (against a revised 7,417,500) and consumption was 6,587,500 (7,216,000 revised).

Foreign Exchange

The Belgian franc dropped to the lower half of the European joint float in European currency trading yesterday.

The mark moved ahead against the dollar and most other currencies amid fairly heavy sales of the Belgian franc in German centres, dealers reported.

Sterling closed 35 points lower against the dollar, at $1.9235. Its depreciation rate rose to 33.7 per cent from 33.6 overnight.

Trading in the pound was subdued ahead of the first ballot for the Labour leadership, dealers said.

In Europe, the mark gained to 2.5475/85 against the dollar from 2.5540/50 overnight with the Belgian convertible unit at 38.89/93 from 38.78/82 previously.

The mark, in the dominant position in the float, stood some 1-3/16 per cent higher in the system than the Belgian franc, which was grouped closely with the Danish and Swedish crowns in the lower half of the "snake".

The German currency stood 1-13/16 per cent above the Norwegian crown, the system's weakest member, compared with the permitted 2¼ per cent limit.

The French franc was relatively steady at 4.6900/50 in dollar terms from 4.6850/6900 overnight.

Gold fell 75 cents an ounce, to $133.50.

Spot Position of Sterling

Forward Levels

Gold

Discount market

The chance of a slight shortage of money in the discount market had been recognized from the outset yesterday, but it eventually proved rather bigger than expected and the authorities found it necessary to give help on a moderate scale. Even so, they did not give as much assistance as the situation appeared to warrant. The close was tight with high rates and probably run-down balances at the banks.

Money was expensive all day. Early rates were in the range of 8¼ per cent or 8½ per cent. The close was very patchy with books finally ruled off anywhere between 8 and 9¼ per cent.

The major contributory factor to the persisting tightness of money was that tax money flowed into the revenue more heavily than anticipated.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 9%
(Last changed 5/3/76)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 9½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 9 Close 8
Week Fixed: 8-8¼

Recent Issues

Wall Street

New York, March 25.—Stock prices showed broad effects of profit-taking on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed off 7.08 points to 1002.13. Declining issues led gainers by about 960 to about 480.

Volume fell to 22,510,000 shares from 32,610,000 shares yesterday.

Analysts said many investors were cashing in on strong gains of the past two sessions, in which the industrial average jumped almost 27 points.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Wednesday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

Silver closes 4c down

New York, March 25

SILVER.—Futures fell 4.00 to 3.90 cents on additional technical selling. Final prices which were near the day's lows, reflected a carryover of pressure spun off from a sell recommendation issued late yesterday by a leading commission house. March, 411.00c; April, 411.00c; May, 412.60c; July, 417.10c; Sept, 422.20c; Dec, 431.10c; Jan, 434.10c; March, 440.00c; May, 445.90c; July, 451.90c. Handy and Harman $413.20 (previous $420). Handy and Harman of Canada, Can $4.132 (previous Can $4.142).

GOLD.—Futures closed mixed in light trading. Comex prices ranged from 30 cents lower to 20 cents higher.

Canadian Prices

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

Abbey Unit Trust Managers.
72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks 0296-5941
31.3 10.9 Abbey Capital 23.8 25.3 3.95

Insurance Bonds and Funds

Offshore and International Funds

Stock Exchange Prices

Firm tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Mar 22. Dealings End, Apr 2. § Contango Day, Apr 5. Settlement Day, Apr 13

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

1975/76 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
[illegible]						

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

1975/76 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
[illegible]						

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

1975/76 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
[illegible]						

Investment Dollar Premium [illegible]
Premium Conversion Factor [illegible]

FOREIGN STOCKS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

DOLLAR STOCKS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

C—E

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

F—H

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

I—L

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

M—N

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

O—S

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

T—Z

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

INSURANCE

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

SHIPPING

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

MINES

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

OIL

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

PROPERTY

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

RUBBER

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

TEA

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

MISCELLANEOUS

1975/76 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]							

[illegible]

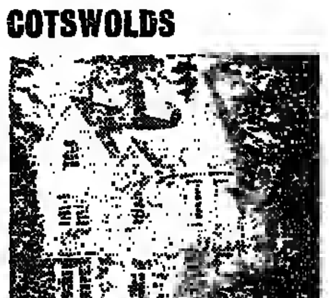
THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

[illegible]

Property

Country property

COTSWOLDS



in 4 secluded, timbered acres with lake, on edge of the town. XIX c Stone House (thoroughly reconditioned). 4/5 Reception and 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms and Shower. Fabulous Kitchen. Main Services and Gas C.H. Separate 3-Room Stone Cottage with Bath and Kitchen. £49,500 region (or might split). Buckell & Ballard, Oxford 40801, or Joint Agent, Harrods, 01-589 1490.

FORMER WHEELWRIGHT'S COTTAGE

6 miles south of Reading. Pretty 300 year old property extensively improved and modernised with Hall, 3 Reception Rooms, Family Kitchen, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Utility Area, Garage, Gas Central Heating, Small Garden with Magnolia and Splash Pool. £26,950. Buckell & Ballard, Reading 57341.

Between Gerrards Cross and Beaconsfield, Bucks.

Spacious family house with attractive elevations convenient for the M40 and train service to London and standing in a country setting. Fine hall with cloaks, communicating lounge and dining room, 2 further reception rooms, well-equipped domestic offices, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Large outside studio. Easy to maintain garden with SWIMMING POOL and extending to about 1 acre.

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Tel.: 04946-5555

ST. JOHN SMITH & SON

UCKFIELD

A SUPERB QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

close town centre

Principal section of Manor House just totally re-fitted with new kitchen, gas central heating, wiring etc.

3 good Bedrooms, well appointed Bathroom, fine Hall, Cloaks, Drawing Room 19ft. x 15ft. 9in. with doors to Dining Room 16ft. x 16ft. Garage. Manageable Garden. £26,000 FREEHOLD. For illustrated details telephone Uckfield 4111.

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Don't miss your chance to advertise your properties in The Times Focus on the Residential Property Market. It is appearing on April 9th and will be covering 3 main topics.

1 FARMS & ESTATES

2 LEISURE & RETIREMENT HOMES

3 RIVERSIDE PROPERTIES

For further details and to advertise your properties in this feature phone the Property Team on

01-278 9231

FARMHOUSE OF CHARACTER

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX 2½ MILES

Rural hamlet. Backing on to fields set in 1½ acre gdn with s.c. flatlet. 3/4 Rec., 2 Kits., 2 Cloaks, 2 Bathrms., 4/5 Beds. C.H. Garage. Price £30,000.

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COTSWOLDS.—Small enchanting period house, 3 bedrooms (3 double), pretty branching staircase, 3 reception rooms, hall, white bathroom with w.c., separate w.c. Flagstoned kitchen/breakfast room plumbed for washing machine and dishwasher. Tiny walled patio with raised flower beds. Lavish gas central heating throughout. £29,500 freehold. Shipton-Under-Wychwood 830072.

ASCOT EAST HOUSE near Windsor Great Park and riding school 3 recpt., 3 beds., dressing room, bathrm., shower rm., double gge., ½ acre garden with summer house, stable. Freehold £48,000.—Robin Hilton & Co., 01-493 8841. Dorking 87608.

NEAR WINDSOR. Detached house comp. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, utility room, downstairs toilet, dining room, lounge, study, olde worlde bar, large kitchen. Part exposed beams. For sale preferably with entire contents: carpets, furniture, antique Welsh dresser, paintings, etc. Please write Box 0033 P, The Times.

COTSWOLDS.—Nr. Burford 5 miles. 19/20 Windrush. Delightful pair of unmodernised Grade II listed Cotswold village cottages, looking towards Windrush Valley. Now one property with 2 recept., scullery, 3 bed rms, useful outbuildings. Garden. Auction—22nd April. Rylands & Co., Cirencester. Tel. (0285) 3101/5.

COLN VALLEY.—Nr. Bibury 2½ miles. 1 Coln St. Aldwyns. Substantial Cotswold stone cottage in centre of village. Hall, 2 recept., kit., bath., 3 bedrms, 2 attic bedrms. Gardens. Auction—22nd April. Rylands & Co., Cirencester. Tel.: (0285) 3101/5.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD 3 MILES

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Close to famous "Crown Inn" Chiddingfold. Also recreational club nearby. 2 mins. from shops, easy access to Godalming-Guildford. School nearby.

Quick sale as owner moving in the near future. Available immediately: £10,000 o.n.o.

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Easy access M1, 20 mins. St. Pancras B.R., detached house of character in exclusive private road, 4 beds. (3 double), 2 recpts., large lounge/hall, Hygena kitchen, bathroom, 2 w.c.s, garage, ½ acre mature garden, gas c.h., immaculate order.

FREEHOLD, £41,000

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Telephone: 01-727 7417 in office hours or 01-229 5620 for 24 hrs. answering service.

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S.W.7. Mews House in private road. Double-fronted. Spacious rooms. Balcony. Garage. C.H. £35,000 Freehold. Telephone 01-373 3686.

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American owner repatriating

Price reduced to

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For quick disposal.

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01-689 5102

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N.W.3 PIED-A-TERRE. — Bright, first-floor flat in popular block. Double bedroom, reception, kitchen, bath/w.c. 31-year-lease. Rent £400. Price £6,250 to include c. & c.—Druce & Co., 435 9851.

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Price—any currency equivalent to 120,000 U.S. Dollars. Enquiries please to Box 0311 P, The Times.

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In 17,000 sq.m. enclosed park with magnificent view on the bay of Pampelone and Sainte-Maxime

SINGLE-STOREY HOUSE

315 sq.m. 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms; swimming pool and caretaker's lodge.

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CANNES

10 mins., sea 5 mins.

Secluded provencal villa

4 Bedrooms, reception 35ft x 20ft, open fireplace, 2 double french windows to wide terrace. Dining room, sunny kitchen. 3 tiled bathrooms, television room, garden room, laundry room and central heating. Entrance hall in tower with stone staircase to playroom. Mosaic tiled swimming pool, pool house with changing rooms, w/c, telephone. 3 paved terraces, 1½ acres attractive terraced garden, oranges, palms, vines, mimosa, lavender etc. Abundant water. 990,000 Francs. Mortgage available. WILLIAMS GROUP Tel. Chertsey 63466.

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2/3 bedrooms (master bedroom with private bathroom), modern fitted kitchen. Garage, lift services

Principals only.
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£17,500

APTHORPES
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CANONBURY

Top flat in fashionable Georgian development comprising 2 beds., large sitting room, kitchen, bath and hall. All modern conveniences including washing machine, dishwasher, etc. Overlooking large communal lawn with magnificent Linden trees. Quiet outlook, yet only two minutes from Highbury Corner (Victoria Line). Newly carpeted and decorated throughout. Price £21,000.

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DRASTICALLY REDUCED FOR QUICK SALE

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A snip at £13,950
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Exceptionally large modern DETACHED HOUSE in quiet village location. Easy access motorway network as well as all Midland towns.

Entrance hall, cloakroom with avocado coloured low level units, 2 reception, 1 with double French casement to garden, well appointed fitted kitchen with door from car port, utility room, 4 bedrooms, also study/5th bedroom, luxury bathroom part tiled with avocado coloured suite and shower, separate w.c. Integral garage with side door to car port.

This very spacious property is offered at £21,500.

Telephone LUTTERWORTH 4535

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London side of Braintree, post war det. hse. of good size with 4 bed. accmd., c.h. and dble. gl. Good size garden, etc. £21,500.

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Malmesbury 3174

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Available immediately!

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GILLAND & CO.
12 Finchley Rd.,
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N.W.8.
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P.R.O.

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Yeovilton, Somerset

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(£4,400 to £7,110)

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requires a young

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Trade book or magazine experience with current fiction and non-fiction important.

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Growth opportunity with good salary, benefits.

Send résumé to

BOX 0094 P, The Times

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COMPANY SEC./ACCOUNTANT for country district. See today's £6,000 plus Appts. page.

SALES AND MARKETING

REPRESENTATIVE for established family printing firm. Commission only. 01-527 8632/3621.

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REPRESENTATIVE for established family printing firm. Commission only. 01-527 8632/3621.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Rothamsted Experimental Station

HARPENDEN, HERTS. AL5 2JQ

SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

or

HIGHER SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

required in the Field Experiments Section. Duties include the preparation of instructions in the form of field plans, for the conduct of about 100 field experiments, observations on them, record keeping and demonstration to visitors.

Qualifications: Degree in Agriculture, or other related science, or H.N.C. in an appropriate subject.

Appointment in grade of Scientific Officer (£2,149-£3,537) or Higher Scientific Officer (£3,254-£4,464). At least five years' post-qualification experience is required for appointment in the H.S.O. grade. Non-contributory superannuation.

Applications, naming two referees and quoting reference 284 to The Secretary by 15th April.

AREA EDUCATION OFFICER for Warwickshire C. Cncl. See £6,000+ Appts.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Bristol

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

EVALUATION OF THE AVON RESOURCES FOR LEARNING PROJECT

Applications are invited for two posts as Research Assistants to work on the above D.E.S. funded project. The appointments, which will be for one year, ten months, will commence on 1st September, 1976 and the salary will be within the range £3,174—£3,582 per annum.

Applications should be made within 14 days of this advertisement, quoting reference EB to The Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Manchester

LECTURER IN ACCOUNTING

Applications invited for this post. Duties commence October 1st. Salary range, per annum, £3,174—£6,447. Superannuation. Further particulars and application forms (returnable by April 23rd) from the Registrar, The University, Manchester, M13 9PL. Quote ref. 50/76/T.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Dar es Salaam

TANZANIA

Applications are invited for the post of PROFESSOR/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR/SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER in ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY. Applicants are expected to hold a Ph.D. in Veterinary Science or Animal Production with a specialisation in Animal Physiology, a holder of an M.Sc. in Animal Physiology with considerable field or teaching experience will also be considered. The appointee will be expected to teach B.Sc. (Agric.) undergraduate students, courses on the physiology of Farm Animals (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, donkeys, horses) with special reference to growth, reproduction, adaptation to environment, behaviour, milk secretion and digestion. He/she will also be expected to initiate research and conduct research in his/her own field of specialization, and to teach post-graduate students and supervise their research for their higher degrees. Salary scales: Professor TS3,332 to £3,662 p.a.; Associate Professor, TS3,022 to TS3,472 p.a.; Senior Lecturer, TS2,630 to TS3,022 p.a.; Lecturer, TS2,150 to 22,570 p.a. (TS1 equals £1.19 sterling.) The British Government may supplement salaries in range by £2,292 to £3,336 p.a. (sterling) for married appointees or £1,428 to £2,382 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (normally free of all tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. F.S.S.U.; family passages; biennial overseas leave. Detailed applications (2 copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees, should be sent by air mail, not later than 29 April 1976 to the Chief Academic Officer, University of Dar es Salaam, P.O. Box 35091, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send one copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Bristol

LECTURER IN PHARMACOLOGY

Applications are invited for an appointment as Lecturer in Pharmacology tenable from a date to be agreed but not later than 1st October, 1976. The initial salary, depending upon qualifications and experience, will be within the range £3,174-£4,602 per annum of the Lecturers scale of £3,174-£6,446 per annum with superannuation benefits. The starting salary will be determined by age, qualifications and experience.

Candidates should preferably have experience in teaching science students and broadly based interest in pharmacology will be an advantage. The person appointed will also be encouraged to pursue independent research using the wide range of facilities available within the department.

Applications, including the names and addresses of three referees and details of qualifications, experience and publications, should be sent by 10th May, 1976 to the Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained (please quote reference EB).

Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine
Elstree, Hertfordshire

MICROBIOLOGIST

Required to take charge of the Bacterial Vaccines Production Unit in the Vaccines & Sera Laboratories. This unit produces the bacterial antigens for incorporation into the range of human vaccines manufactured by the institute.

This is a senior appointment to the scientific staff, the person appointed being responsible to the Production Manager.

Previous experience in bacterial vaccine production is essential and proven capability as a manager is desirable.

This position would suit a person with drive and initiative who is at present employed in a line management or closely allied position and who is now seeking advancement.

Applications with full curriculum vitae to The Secretary.

Personnel Managers Management Consultants Advertising Agencies . . .

Due to the success of The Times recruitment pages we are pleased to announce plans for a Focus to appear on

THURSDAY, 1st APRIL, 1976

entitled

FOCUS ON RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

What better way to recruit your staff than to aim at an already established market which has been promoted in order to attract as many quality replies as possible. Your vacancy would appear under special headings geared towards the position you wish to fill.

It is planned that in this particular feature emphasis will be placed with editorial comment on

OVERSEAS VACANCIES
AND
FINANCIAL, BANKING & INSURANCE

Let us now fill your vacancies. To book your space or for more information ring

THE TIMES APPOINTMENTS TEAM
01-278 9161.

PS. If you're looking for that new opportunity make sure that you don't miss the feature on April 1st.

If you're taking your 'A' levels in June, you could be a Naval Officer in September.

If you have 2 or more 'A' levels, you could go to the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, and become a Seaman Officer.

Or (with Maths and Physics) you could spend a year at Dartmouth, then go to the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, to read for a B.Sc. and become an Engineer Officer.

Or you could go to the university/polytechnic of your choice on a Royal Navy grant of £1,474 a year.

And in each case, you would have started your career as a Naval Officer. To find out more, send the coupon.

A degree or 2 'A' levels (or equivalent) are required for a Full Career Commission. However, if you have at least 5 grade 'C's or above at 'O' level (or equivalent) including Maths and English Language, we may consider you for a Short Career Commission.

To: Captain M. E. Barrow, MBIM, MNI, RN, Officer Entry Section, (9EX1), Old Admiralty Building, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE.

Name

Address

Date of birth

Please send me further information about a commission as a Seaman Officer ☐ Engineer Officer ☐

I am on a degree course in

at

I have/expect to get 2 or more 'A' levels (or equivalent) ☐
5 or more grade 'C's at 'O' level (or equivalent) ☐

School

ROYAL NAVY OFFICER

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

Solicitor

for Registrar General's Department. Hong Kong Up to £8,550 p.a.

- 25% Gratuity on salary
- Low tax area
- Free medical treatment
- Free passages
- Generous terminal leave
- Subsidised accommodation
- Special education allowance
- Holiday visits for children

The Registrar General's Department, Hong Kong, requires Solicitors to help with legal work in the various branches of the Department, including the Land Office, the Official Receiver's Office, the Companies Registry, the Trade Marks and Patents Registries, and the Births, Marriages and Deaths Registries.

Applicants should preferably be aged under 35, must be either Solicitors with at least 4 years' professional experience since Admission, or Barristers with at least 5 years' professional experience since Call.

Appointment will be for an initial period of 2½ years. The salary range for the post is HK$ 4,275 - HK$ 6,910 per month (approx. £5,290 - £8,550 p.a.)*. Starting salary will depend on experience.

For further information, write to the Hong Kong Government Office, 6 Grafton Street, London, W1X 3LB, quoting reference RG/SOL at the top of your letter. Closing date for applications 15th April, 1976.

*Based on exchange rate of HK$9.70=£1.00. This rate is subject to change.

Hong Kong Government

OIL BROKER

An internationally known Shipbroking Group wishes to appoint an 'OIL BROKER' to create and develop an Oil Broking section.

Applicants should be well informed on the trading logistics between oil companies, and preferably already have had experience with an oil company or Trader.

The successful applicant will be based in London.

Curriculum vitae to Box 0071 P, The Times.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON ANIMAL DISEASES
Compton, Newbury, Berks RG16 0NN

A vacancy exists for

SECRETARY

to the ARC Institute for Research on Animal Diseases

This Institute has a staff of over 300 and an estate of nearly 2,000 acres. Its objective is the investigation of the diseases of farm livestock, with especial respect to improving production.

The Secretary serves under the Director and is Head of the Administration Department. Delegated to him/her is day-to-day responsibility for all financial, personnel and general administration matters, liaison with ARC Headquarters, security and management of the 129 houses on the estate.

The vacancy is at Principal grade, salary range £5,689-£7,450, with a non-contributory superannuation scheme.

Further information can be obtained from the Acting Secretary of the Institute, to whom applications and curriculum vitae should be sent, quoting Ref: 196, before 12 April, 1976.

SERVICE MARKETING MANAGER

Circa £7,000 + Car

Marketing applied to after sales in the automobile world requires a professional touch.

If you have a top track record in Marketing, are between 25 and 40 and believe you can fit into a Young Aggressive Team operating out of our Brentford head office

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Director General

Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive
£15,500/£16,500

Applications are invited for the above appointment.

Applicants should have considerable administrative experience and be able to demonstrate high level managerial achievement.

The conditions of service will be those prescribed by the J.N.C. for Chief Officers of Local Authorities.

Application forms and a Statement of duties and conditions are available from the County Personnel Officer, County Hall, Piccadilly Gardens, Manchester M60 3HP. Closing date 10th April.

GMC
Greater Manchester Council

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Education Department

AREA EDUCATION OFFICER,

EASTERN AREA—(POST NO. ED.8)

Applications are invited for this post, based at Rugby, which becomes vacant on the retirement of the present holder on 30th June, 1976. Salary scale Principal Officers Range 2 (1-4), £5,889-£6,564.

Candidates should have had successful teaching and administrative experience.

A settling-in allowance of up to £400 is payable in approved circumstances, and assistance with housing for a short time is a possibility.

FURTHER PARTICULARS AND APPLICATION FORMS OBTAINABLE FROM THE COUNTY EDUCATION OFFICER, 22 NORTHGATE STREET, WARWICK, CV34 4SR, TO WHOM THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED BY 9th APRIL, 1976.

Mercedes Sales Manager

MUSCAT - SULTANATE OF OMAN

The Daimler Benz agents for Oman require an automotive Sales Manager. Ideally the candidate should have had overseas experience, be aged between 35 and 45 years and have experience of selling Mercedes vehicles. A knowledge of tractors would also be an advantage.

The successful candidate will receive a tax free salary equal to approximately £6,500 p.a., together with free air-conditioned, furnished accommodation, personal transport and paid annual leave with return passage paid.

Interviews will take place in London during April.

Please write with full C.V. to
MISS E. J. HART, ROOM 122,
HYDE PARK HOTEL,
66 KNIGHTSBRIDGE, LONDON S.W.1.

DISABLED LIVING FOUNDATION

DIRECTOR

CHARITABLE TRUST WORKING IN FIELD OF PHYSICAL MENTAL DISABILITY, PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF DAY TO DAY LIFE, BY INVESTIGATION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION THROUGH SURVEYS, REPORTS, BOOKS, FILMS, LECTURES, COURSES; BASED IN LONDON WITH STAFF OF 50+.

Owing to the desire of the present Director to retire, the charity requires before the end of 1976 a person with some administrative experience and with organisational capacity, ability to work with committees, flexibility and readiness to follow a project through from first ideas to completion; knowledge of the health and social services and of the voluntary sector, preferably with a recognised relevant professional qualification. Some acquaintance with fund raising would be an advantage.

Basic salary by negotiation dependent upon qualification and experience, together with good superannuation and holiday arrangements.

For further details apply, in confidence, to the Director, Disabled Living Foundation, 346/8 Kensington High Street, London W14 8NS, not later than 14th April, 1976.

THE KEMBLE PIANO AND MUSICAL INSTRUMENT GROUP require an

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

to take responsibility for the administration of their YAMAHA AMPLIFICATION AND SMALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DIVISION.

Applicants must have already had experience in an Executive Capacity in the Industry, and the post will carry Top Salary coupled with the normal fringe benefits.

Please apply in writing to the Managing Director.

KEMBLE PIANO GROUP
Mount Avenue, Bletchley, Milton Keynes,
MK1 1JE.

FUND RAISING CONSULTANT

Experience and training with professional company desirable. Total remuneration in the range £6,000 to £7,000 and excellent fringe benefits and opportunity for financial advancement. Career appointment. Must be prepared to travel within the U.K.—Box 0036 P, The Times.

COMPANY SECRETARY/ ACCOUNTANT

REQUIRED for eventual appointment for old established, highly reputable, successful, medium size Manufacturing business, Country district.

Applications in Confidence are invited ONLY from experienced persons of fertile mind with head for figures.

Some knowledge both of Company & Tax Law, and of gentle disposition with ability to command.

Applicant must be of unquestioned integrity. References will be subjected to thorough scrutiny.

SALARY in the region of £6,000 or more dependent on experience, qualifications and merit.

Reply in first instance to Mr P. Ellison & Co., Solicitors, Headgate Court, Colchester, and marked Private.

Leicester Polytechnic

PROFESSOR

of Computer Science and Head of the School of Mathematics, Computing & Statistics

(Post No. 253)

Applications are invited for the Chair of Computer Science vacant 1 September 1976. The appointee will be expected to develop further teaching, research, applications of computing throughout the Polytechnic and liaison with F.E. Institutions.

Salary: £8,037 - £8,913 p.a.

Further particulars and application form from Staffing Officer, Leicester Polytechnic, P.O. Box 143, Leicester, LE1 9BH.
Applications close on 30 April, 1976.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI

BUNDA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Applications are invited for the following posts, tenable from September 1976:—

LECTURER IN AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING. Applicants should have a good first degree in Agricultural Engineering and postgraduate qualifications and experience in field engineering. Farming experience would be an advantage. Duties of the post include teaching field engineering, farm structures, surveying, and technical drawing.

LECTURER IN PLANT BREEDING. Applicants should have a good first degree in Agriculture or Botany with postgraduate qualifications and experience in Plant Breeding and Genetics. Duties of the post include teaching *plant breeding and* genetics and assisting in national crops research programme.

LECTURER IN AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY. Applicants should have M.Sc or Ph.D. in Chemistry. Experience in teaching Chemistry and interest in some field of agriculture would be an advantage. Duties of the post include teaching basic Chemistry to agricultural students.

LECTURER IN ANIMAL NUTRITION. Applicants should have a good first degree in Agriculture or Agricultural Chemistry with postgraduate qualifications and experience in Animal Nutrition. Duties of the post include teaching animal nutrition and developing field development-oriented research in Animal Nutrition.

LECTURER IN HOME ECONOMICS. Applicants should have a degree in Home Economics or Home Economics Education, preferably with advanced training and/or experience in home economics extension for rural development. Field experience particularly in a developing country is desirable but not essential. The appointees will be required to teach Home Economics to agricultural students at degree and diploma level.

Salary scale (including expatriate addition): K2,809—K4,714 p.a. (£1 sterling=K1.82). There may be either a University addition of ... p.a. (taxable in Malawi) or the British Government may supplement salary in range £1,570—£1,992 p.a. (sterling) for married appointees or £910—£1,332 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (normally free of tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. Gratuity of 15%-25%; superannuation scheme transferable with FSSU; family passages; various allowances; biennial overseas leave; housing. Detailed applications (2 copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees, should be sent by airmail, not later than 27 April 1976 to the Registrar, University of Malawi, University Office, PO Box 278, Zomba, Malawi. Applicants resident in UK should also send 1 copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Bath

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL WORK

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Social Work. Candidates must be graduates and should be able to lead teaching in group work and ... studies.

Salary in the range £3,174—... according to qualifications and experience.

Further particulars and application forms available from the Personnel Officer, University of Bath, Bath BA2 ..., quoting reference number .... Closing date for applications: 15th April, 1976.

University of Southampton

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Applications are invited for a

LECTURESHIP IN SOCIOLOGY

in the Department of Sociology and Social Administration. The successful candidate will be required to contribute to the department's basic teaching in Sociology.

Salary scale: £3,174-£6,447. The initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience. Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. C. W. L. Swann, The University, Southampton SO9 5NH, to whom applications (seven copies from United Kingdom applicants) should be sent not later than 17 April. Please quote ref T/634/A.

UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

LAW

Applications are invited for teaching appointments in the Faculty of Law from candidates who have, preferably, a Master's degree in Law and relevant teaching or research experience. Candidates with a good Bachelor's degree may also apply.

Gross monthly emoluments in the range from S$1,390 to S$4,440 approx., the initial amount depending on the candidate's qualifications and experience and the level of appointment offered. The gross emoluments comprise basic salary and all National Wages Council wage allowances. In addition, the University pays a 13th month annual allowance of one month's basic salary in December each year; and contributes to the staff members' Provident fund at 15% of basic salary and allowances.

Leave, medical, housing and other benefits are also available.

Candidates should write to: The Registrar, University of Singapore, Singapore 10, giving curriculum vitae (bio-data), with full personal particulars, and also the names and addresses of three referees.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The National University of Lesotho

Applications are invited for

(a) LECTURERSHIP or (b) ASSISTANT LECTURERSHIP IN MATHEMATICS

tenable from 1 August 1976. The duties will include the teaching of basic mathematics in the Faculties of Humanities and Economics and Social Sciences. At present, entry requirements for the University are Cambridge Ordinary School Certificate. Preference will be given to candidates with teaching experience at A-level, matriculation level, first year undergraduate level or with similar experience. Salary scales: (a) R3,924—R5,376 p.a.; (b) R2,748—R3548 p.a. (£1 sterling—R1.68). The British Government may supplement salary under certain circumstances and provide children's holiday visit passages. 25 per cent of basic salary in lieu of superannuation. Medical aid scheme; accommodation at reasonable rent; education allowances; family passages; biennial overseas leave. Detailed applications (two copies) including a curriculum vitae and naming three referees, should be sent by airmail, not later than 27 April 1976 to the Registrar (Appointments), National University of Lesotho, Roma, Lesotho. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send one copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars are available from either address.

University of the West Indies

BARBADOS

Applications are invited for the post of LECTURER IN THE TEACHING OF SCIENCE IN THE IN-SERVICE EDUCATION PROGRAMME. The ability to assist with the test construction and measurement of educational technology would be an asset. The appointee will be expected to assume duty by 1st August, 1976. Salary scale (as from 1st August, 1976): BDS$17,739 — BDS$27,711 p.a. (£1 sterling equals BDS$4.06). F.S.S.U. Unfurnished accommodation for the duration of this appointment will be let by the University at a rental of 10 per cent of salary. A Housing Allowance of 10 per cent of salary is payable to staff who make their own housing arrangements. Family passages. Detailed applications (six copies), giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, date of birth, marital status and the names and addresses of three references should be sent as soon as possible to the Secretary, University of the West Indies, P.O. Box 64, Bridgetown, Barbados. The University will send further particulars for this post to all applicants. These particulars may also be obtained from the Inter-University Council for Higher Education Overseas, 90-91 *Tottenham* Court Road, London W1P 0DT.

University of Otago

Faculty of Medicine

THE CHRISTCHURCH CLINICAL SCHOOL
Christchurch, New Zealand

LECTURER OR SENIOR LECTURER IN MEDICINE (IMMUNOLOGY)

Applications are invited from medical graduates for the position of Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in the Department of *Medicine in the recently established* Christchurch Clinical School.

Applicants should have had special clinical and research experience in the field of Immunology and the successful candidate would be expected to pursue research and clinical activity in this field.

Salary: Lecturer NZ$11,042-$16,567 per annum with a bar at $12,944 per annum; Senior Lecturer NZ$16,004-$18,365 per annum.

An allowance for clinical responsibility may be available in the light of status and duties performed.

Further particulars are available from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or from the Registrar of the University.

Applications close on 30 April, 1976.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Birmingham
Faculty of Commerce and Social Science

CENTRE FOR URBAN AND REGIONAL STUDIES

HOUSING RESEARCH POST

Applications are invited for a post of

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE/ FELLOW

to work on a study of Housing Needs and Processes of Change. The position is available for 3½ years from 1st June, 1976, or as soon as possible thereafter. An appointment on secondment to the University could be considered.

Applicants should have a good honours degree and experience of housing research is desirable; knowledge of central or local government will be an added advantage.

Salary on the scale £2,766-£3,990 (Research Associate) or £3,174-£5,418 (Research Fellow) plus superannuation.

Applications (3 copies) naming three referees by 20th April to Assistant Registrar (C. & S.S.), University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT, from whom further particulars and application forms should be obtained.

Please quote reference C/155.

University of Khartoum

SUDAN

Applications are invited for post of PROFESSOR/SENIOR LECTURER in FEED-LOT FATTENING AND MEAT QUALITY ASSESSMENT IN DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION. Salary: £S4,135 p.a. (£1 sterling equals £S0.69). The British Government may supplement by £2,118 p.a. (sterling) for married appointee or £918 p.a. (sterling) for single appointee (normally free of all tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. Family passages; various allowances; superannuation scheme; annual overseas leave. Detailed applications (two copies), including a curriculum vitae and naming three referees, should be sent *by air mail*, not later than 21 April, 1976, to the Personnel Secretary, University of Khartoum, PO Box 321, Khartoum, Sudan. Applicants resident in UK should also send one copy to Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Bristol

The University invites applications for the

WARDENSHIP OF CHURCHILL HALL

a men's Hall of Residence housing 310 students. Applicants must *have experience in* working with students. The Warden of the Hall is responsible to the University Council for all aspects of the conduct of the Hall and will also be required to undertake academic duties within an appropriate University Department. The appointment will date from 1st August, 1976 and the salary will be on the salary scale for Senior Lecturers (£6,254 × £212 (£216)—£7,742 per annum). The post is residential.

Applications, giving names of three referees, by 30th April, 1976, to the Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Please quote reference JHMP.

University College Cardiff

Applications are invited for the following post.

LECTURER

in the Department of Philosophy. Salary range, £3,174-£6,446. Duties to commence 1st October, 1976.

Applications (2 copies), together with the names and addresses of two referees should be forwarded to The Vice-Principal (Administration) and Registrar, University College, P.O. Box 78, Cardiff CF1 1XL, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Closing date 16th April, 1976. Please quote ref. 1010.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of The West Indies

TRINIDAD

Applications are invited for the post of

SENIOR LECTURER/ LECTURER IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

in the Faculty of Agriculture. The appointee should be a specialist in Agricultural Extension or Rural Sociology, and should have experience in teaching and research in the field. Duties to be assumed by August 1, 1976. Salary scales: 1975/76—Senior Lecturer: TT$22,347-$31,056 p.a. Lecturer: TT$16,500-$25,788 p.a. (£1 sterling equals TT$4.81). F.S.S.U. Unfurnished accommodation at a rental of 10% of salary or a housing allowance of 20% of pensionable salary. Family passages. Study and Travel Grant. Detailed application (six copies) giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, date of birth, marital status and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent as soon as possible to the Secretary, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad. Further particulars of the post will be sent to all applicants.

The College of Commerce of the University of Saskatchewan

Saskatoon, Canada

Invites applications for both a permanent and a visiting faculty appointment in

ACCOUNTING

The appointments commence as of July 1, 1976, or possibly January 1, 1977. They may be made at any academic rank and at salaries fully competitive with those offered by other academic institutions.

The 1975-76 salary floors are: Assistant Professor, $14,865; Associate Professor, $19,338; and Professor, $25,170. An applicant should be a good teacher, and should be able and willing to become fully involved in the academic and professional activities undertaken by an authorized full-time accounting faculty complement of twelve persons. Professional (public practice) experience would be useful.

Inquiries indicating academic credentials, desired term of appointment, salary expectations, names of references should be sent, together with a curriculum vitae, to Dean S. Laimon, College of Commerce, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Canada, S7N 0W0.

University of London

CHAIR OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY AT ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

The Senate invites applications for the above Chair. Applications (11 copies) should be received not later than 4 May, 1976, by the Academic Registrar, (T), University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars should be obtained.

University of London

THE IMPERIAL CANCER RESEARCH FUND CHAIR OF MEDICAL ONCOLOGY AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Senate invites applications for the above Chair. Applications (11 copies) should be received not later than 30 April 1976 by the Academic Registrar, (T), University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars should be obtained.

St. Hugh's College, Oxford

LECTURESHIP IN POLITICS

Applications invited for Lectureship in Politics from 1st October 1976. Appointment open to men and women.

Further details from the Principal. Applications to be received by 24th April.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

The Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital (University of London) West Smithfield, London EC1A 7BE

Applications are invited from medically qualified persons for the post of TEMPORARY LECTURER in ANATOMY (formerly classed as a Demonstratorship) tenable at the above Medical College from 1st September, 1976. The post is suitable for an intending Primary F.R.C.S. candidate.

Salary is on the scale £3,174 to £6,446 per annum plus £450 London Allowance. The point of entry to the salary scale will take account of medical qualifications, but the initial basic salary will not normally exceed £3,990.

Application forms, obtainable from the Secretary of The Medical College at the above address, should be returned completed to the Dean not later than 17th May, 1976.

22nd March, 1976.

University of London

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for appointment from 1 October, 1976, to a

LECTURESHIP IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

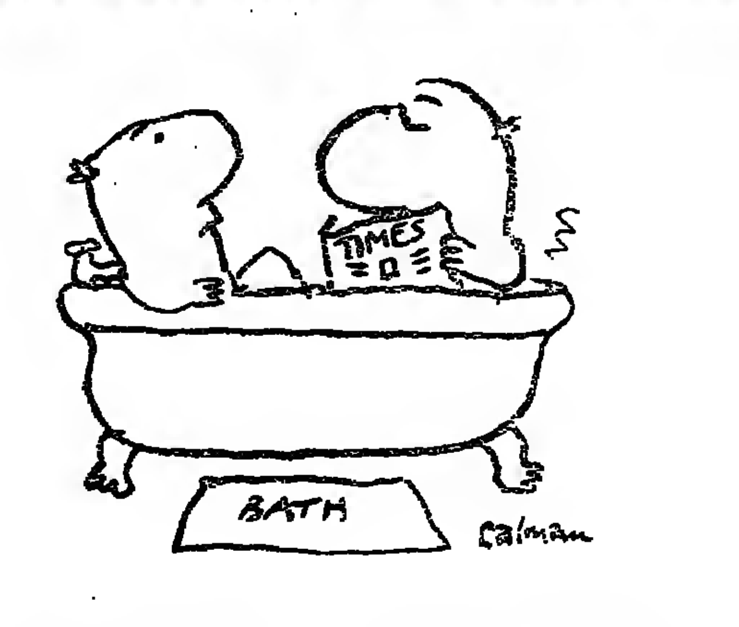
for one year or possibly more. The appointment will be on the salary scale for lecturers of £3,174-£6,446 a year plus £450 a year London Allowance and superannuation benefits. In assessing the starting salary, consideration will be given to qualifications and experience.

Applications should be received not later than 9th April, 1976, by the Administrative Officer (Room H 610), The London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, from whom application forms may be obtained.

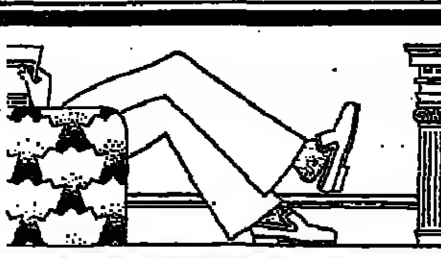
University of London

CHAIR OF EDUCATION WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN EDUCATION AT INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

The Senate invites applications for the above recently instituted Chair. Applications (10 copies) should be received not later than 5 May 1976 by the Academic Registrar, (T), University of London, Senate House, London, WC1E 7HU, from whom further particulars should be obtained.



1976 IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION
OLYMPIA, LONDON
MARCH 9 – APRIL 3



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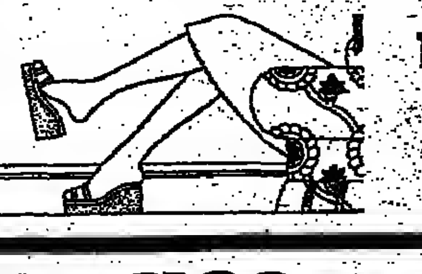

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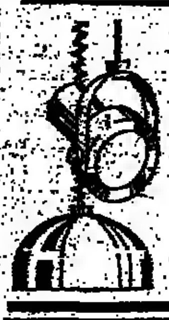

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...oadcasting

...na galore. The Wodehouse Playhouse reopens with John Alderton and ...ine Collins still heading the cast (BBC1 8.25). The incorrigible grocer ...s to encourage impulse buying but suspects the customers who pick up the ...s (BBC2 9.0). Peter Barkworth makes one side of a jealous triangle in the ... (BBC2 10.0). Flora Robson withdraws into local history and legend in ...et (BBC1 10.45). Even the Crown Agents have had their dramatic moments ...e Money Programme reveals (BBC2 8.15) while across the Atlantic ...stigator Jim Rockford gets his usual quota (BBC1 9.25). David Attenborough ...) else ?) visits Selborne (BBC2 10.50).—L.B.

...1

...m, Open University: ...ng a Gas; 7.30-7.55, ... Between Two Stools. ...m, News. 1.00, Pebble ....45-2.02, Andy Pandy. ...bol y Cwm. 4.00, Play ... 4.25, Barbapapa. 4.30, ...y. 4.45, Dastardly and ... 5.00, Crackerjack. ...ptain Pugwash. ...News. 6.00, Nationwide. ...Film: Lassie and Neeka, with Jed Allan, Jeff Pomerantz, Phillip Pine, Douglas Henderson. ...Wodehouse Playhouse, with John Alderton, Pauline Collins. ...News. ...The Rockford Files. ...Tonight. ... Secret England: Chesil Beach. ...Film: Street of Sinners, with George Montgomery, Geraldine Brooks.* ..., Weather. ...and white.

...variations (BBC 1): ...

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University: Baroque Wind Instruments; 7.05, The Building of Florence Cathedral; 7.30-7.55, Resources in Sound. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 5.00 pm, Open University: Coal and the Nineteenth Century; 5.25, Computing; 5.50, Thermal Analysis; 6.15, Chemistry of Carbon Compounds; 6.40, The Einstein Tower. 7.05, Mr Smith's Vegetable Garden.

7.30 Newsday.
7.50 Pioneers of Photography: Nadar the Great.
8.15 Money Programme: The Crown Agents.
9.00 Open All Hours.
9.30 Battle of the Sexes: Light-hearted look.
10.00 Playhouse: An Accident of Class and Sex, by Maggie Wadey.
10.50 Gilbert White Lived Here: David Attenborough at Selborne.
11.05 Newsnight.
11.20-11.25, Robert Hardy reads When Summer's End is Nighing, by A. E. Housman.

Anglia

12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Anglia News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Food File. 2.20, Thames. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 8.00, The Magician. 9.00, London. 10.30, Probe. 11.00, Film: The Bait, with Donna Mills. 12.20 am, Your Music at Night.

Border

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Border News. 1.30, Thames. 6.00, Border News. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Mr and Mrs. 7.30, London. 8.00, Hawaii Five-O. 9.00, London. 10.30, Orson Welles' Great Mysteries. 11.00, Film: The Shadow of the Cat, with Andre Morell, Barbara Shelley, William Lucas.* 12.27 am, Border News.

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.30 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Ask About America. 5.50, News. 6.00, Grampian Today. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 7.30, ATV. 8.30, Anita. 9.00, London. 10.30, Indoor League. 11.00, Film: The Curse of Frankenstein. 12.30 am, Prayers.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 6.00 pm, North East News. 6.05, Division. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, London. 7.30, Cartoon. 7.35, Film: Dying Room Only. 9.00, London. 10.30, Sportstmn. 11.00, Film: Man in the Attic, with Jack Palance. 12.30 am, Epilogue.

Westward

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 6.20, Thames. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.35, ATV. 7.00, Treasure Hunt. 7.30, ATV. 8.30, Now Who Do You Do? 9.00, London. 10.32 Westward News. 10.35, Late ... 10.50, Film: Who Killed Teddy Bear? with Juliet Prowse.* 12.25 am, Faith for Life.

Thames

12.00, A Handful of Songs. 12.10 pm, Mr Trimble. 12.30, Paint Along with Nancy. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Couples. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.20, Racing from Doncaster. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.20, Four Idle Hands. 4.50, Magpie. 5.20, University Challenge.
5.50 News. 6.00, London Report.
6.35 Crossroads.

London Weekend

7.00 pm, Sale of the Century.
7.30 Yes—Honestly.
8.00 Police Woman.
9.00 Hadleigh.
10.00 News.
10.30 Police Five.
10.40 Russell Harty.
11.30 The Collaborators.
12.30 am, Christians in the East End.

Granada

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Chuckleheads.* 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.35, Police Surgeon. 7.05, Not on Your Nellie. 7.35, Sale of the Century. 8.05, The Magician. 9.00, London. 10.30, Kick-off. 11.00-12.55 am, Film: Oscar Wilde, with Robert Morley, Ralph Richardson.*

ATV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Crossroads. 7.00, Now Who Do You Do? 7.30 Hawaii Five-O. 8.30, Sale of the Century. 9.00, London. 10.30, Extra Time. 11.00-12.30 am, Film: The Colossus of New York, with Ross Martin.*

Southern

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.20, Thames. 5.20, Punch Trunk. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. Scene South East. 6.35, Out of Town. 7.05, ATV. 7.35, Banacek. 9.00, London. 10.30, Southern Report. 11.00, Film: The Horror of Dracula (1958), with Christopher Lee, Peter Cushing. 12.25 am, Southern News. 12.35, Weather. Only for the Lonely.

HTV

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Women Only. 2.20, Thames. 5.20, Fabin. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.01, Report West. 5.18, Report Wales. 6.35, Space 1999. 7.30, Sale of the Century. 8.00, The Streets of San Francisco. 9.00, London. 10.30, Sweet Somerset. 11.00, Madigan. 12.20 am, Weather. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 4.20-5.20, Seesion Cantamil. 6.01-6.18, Y Dydd. 10.30-11.00, Outlook. HTV WEST: As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, West Headlines. 6.18-6.35, Report West.

Radio

1

6.00 am, News. Don Durbridge.† 7.00, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Tony Blackburn. 12.00, Johnnie Walker. 2.02 pm, David Hamilton.† 4.00, Rosko'n Round Table. 5.45, Newsbeat. 6.02, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Sports Desk. 7.02, Treble Chance Knockout Quiz. 7.30, Play It Again.† 8.02, John Fox.† 9.02, Music Night.† 10.02, Sports Desk. 10.05, Jim Macleod and His Band.† 11.00, John Peel.† 12.00-12.05 am, News.
† Stereo.

2

6.00 am, Radio 1. 7.02, Terry Wogan.† (8.27, Racing bulletin). 9.02, Pete Murray.† (10.30, Waggoners' Walk). 11.30, Jimmy Young.† 2.02 pm, Radio 1. 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, Sam Costa.† 6.45, Radio 1. 11.02, Len Jackson (1500m). 12.00-12.05, News.

3

7.00 am, News. 7.05, Grétry, Henri Herz, Verdi.† 8.00, News. 9.05, Haydn, Wagner.† 9.00, News. 8.05, Victoria.† 9.45, BBC Northern Ireland Orchestra: Mehul, Kodaly, Wilfred Josephs.† 10.30, Piano Recital: Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms.† 11.20, Bing wo al Picasure.† 12.05 pm, Concert: Part 1, arr Respighi, Hindemith.† 1.00, News. 1.05, Playbill.† 1.20, Concert: Part 2, Sinar.† 2.00, English Bach Festival 1976: Part 1, In Greene, Stanley, Bach.† 2.40, In short: What is Romantic Music? 2.50, Concert: Part 2, Roger, Kurt Thomas, Purcell, Brahms.† 3.30, Shostakovich Symphonies.† 4.25, New Records: Schubert, arr Beethoven, Smetana.† 5.25, Pied Piper.† 5.45, Homeward Bound. 5.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound (continued). 6.30, Nations an Neighbours O. 7.00, A Stranger Abroad. 7.30, Paul Tortelier: Walton.† 9.00, Die Entführung aus dem Serail, opera by Mozart: Acts 1 and 2. 9.10, Vanbrugh and the British Style, talk by Kerry Downes. 9.40, Die Entführung, Act 3. 10.40, Permanent Exile, Joseph Roth (1894-1939). 11.25-11.30, News.

4

6.20 am, News. 6.22, Farming. 6.40, Prayer. 6.45, Today. 7.00, News and more of Today. 8.00, News and more of Today. 8.45, Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00, News. 9.05, Voice of the People: 021-333 5433. 10.00, News. 10.05, Checkpoint. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Great Musicals: Guys and Dolls. 11.50, In My Own Time: Lord Chalfont on rugger. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Oh, Get On With It! 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Woman's Hour. 2.45, Listen With Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: Delia. 4.00, News. 4.00, News. 4.05, Any Answers? 4.35, Story: Love of Seven Dolls. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.15, Brain of Britain. 6.45, The Archers. 7.00, News. 7.30, Pick of the Week. 8.30, Any Questions? 8.15, Letter from America. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.45, A Book at Bedtime: The Sleeper Awakes. 11.00, The Financial World Tonight. 11.15, Today in Parliament. 11.25, Week Ending ... 11.40, News. 12-12.04 am, Inshore Forecast.

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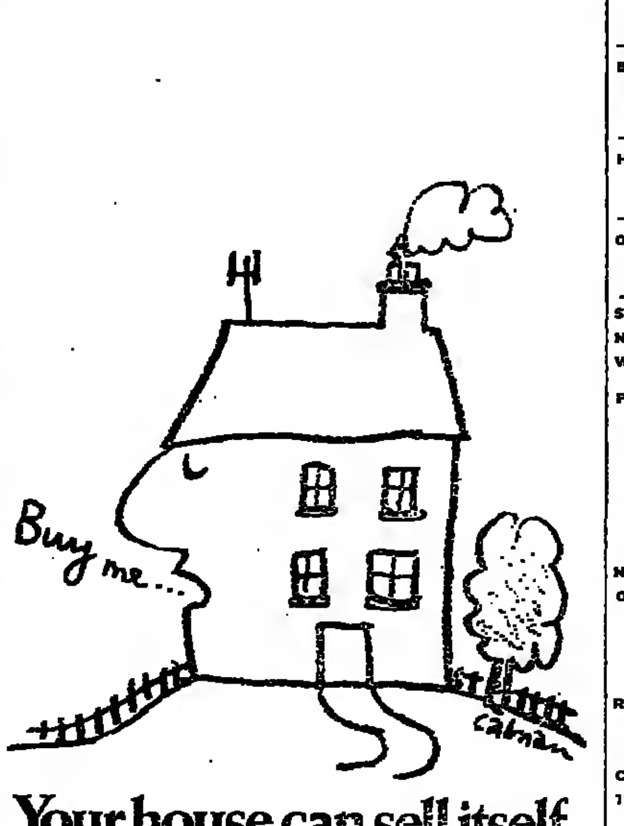

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(continued on page 28)

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 27

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DEATHS

BALDWIN.—On 24th March, 1976, at home, 6 Rossall Drive, Bramhall, Cheshire, Rose dearly loved wife of the late Alfred William and mother of John and Judith. Service at the Macclesfield Crematorium, today, Friday, at 2.30 p.m. Flowers and enquiries to George Meredith, Stockport. Tel.: 061 480 2063.

BENGOUGH.—On 24th March, peacefully, at the Clendagh Nursing Home, Kingsland, Herefordshire, Gwenda, dearly loved sister of Nigel and Madeline. Funeral at St Michael and All Angels' Church, Buckland Dinham, Frome, on Tuesday, 30th March, at 12 noon.

BIGNELL.—On March 22, 1976, at home, Dorothy, of Selgrand House, Clamp Hill, Stanmore. Wife of the late Ernest Frederick Bignell, mother of Richard, Walter, Dorothy and Robert. Funeral service on Monday, March 29, at 1.45 p.m. at St. John's, Stanmore. Flowers to be sent to Messrs. James Crook, 53 Bridge Road, Wembley Park, Middlesex HA9 9AG. Inquiries to 01-904 4284 or 01-954 0061.

BLABER.—On March 24th, 1976, at his home Ash Tree, Wargrave, Berkshire, Col. Hugh Kenneth Blaber, C.B.E., aged 76 years, husband of Peggy, father of Valerie and Hugh. Funeral Service at St. Mary's Church, Wargrave, on Monday, 29th of March at 2.30 p.m. Please, no flowers, but donations if desired to Royal British Legion, c/o W. H. Easterling, Braybrook Rd., Wargrave.

BLACKMAN.—On March 25th, peacefully in hospital, Olga Florence, wife of N. J. Blackman. Cremation private.

BOND.—On March 23rd, 1976, Charles Edward, beloved husband of Mary, of White Gate, Fairlawn Road, Tadley, Hampshire. Never to be forgotten. His children, Janet and Clive, and stepchildren, D. E. and Nick, and all the family. Cremation private. Funeral service at St Thomas's Church, Salisbury, on Wednesday, March 31st, 1976, at 3 p.m. May he rest in peace forever.

BRANN.—On March 23rd, suddenly and peacefully, at home, Dr. C. H. Brann (Curry), aged 83, beloved husband of Hildegard and father of Robby. Cremation 30th March at 4 p.m. Putney Vale Crematorium.

BRANSCOMBE.—On 25th March, Kenneth Cooper. At his request private cremation only and in remembrance donations to Cancer Research Campaign, The Treasurer, 13 Chestnut Avenue, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells.

COCKBURN.—On 23rd March, 1976, suddenly, in hospital, Edinburgh, Dr Jean, much loved sister of Jim and Norman.

COLLISON.—On 22nd March, in Vancouver, Aileen Valerie Adair, in her eighty-ninth year, dear wife of the late Oliver Hunt and of the late Archdeacon Harry Collison, and mother of Peter Hunt. Seventh daughter of the late Frederick and Janin Adair Roberts, of Hampstead.

DE JONGE.—On Thursday, 25th ...

DEATHS

STRICKLAND.—On 24th March, 1976, at Edinburgh, Frances Olga, beloved wife of Harold John Strickland, F.S.A., 45 Coates Gardens, Edinburgh, formerly of ...

WALKER.—On March ... at Enfield, Middx, ... illness, Gilbert Ale... loved husband of N... father of Peter ... Funeral service 3.15 ... Mary Magdalene, W... Enfield, on Wedne... March, followed by ... mation. Family flo...

WALKER.—On March ... peacefully at his ... Middle House, ... Southwold. William ... Walker, aged 85, belo... of the late Beatrice ... Douglas and Joan. ... vice at Southw... Church, Friday, A... 2.30 followed by ... Wrentham. Flowers ... to Southwold Church...

WILLS.—On March ... suddenly, Leonard A... husband of Patricia ... dearly loved father of ... Service at the Down... ium, Brighton, Mo... 29th (4 p.m.). Flow... bunches only please ... 29 College Place, Bri...

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GLOVER. A Memorial ... the life and work o... Glover, C.B.E., M... F.R.C.V.S., Princip... Royal Veterinary ... 1955-1965, who d... December 1975, wil... St. Pancras Old Chu... Road, London N.W. ... day, 30 March 1976 ...

YOXALL.—A service o... ing for the long life ... S. Yoxall, C.B.E., w... St. James's, Piccadil... W.1, at 12 noon on ... 28th April, 1976.

IN MEMORIAM

ANDERSON.—In loving ... William Curling An... passed away on Mo... 26, 1907. Deeply m...

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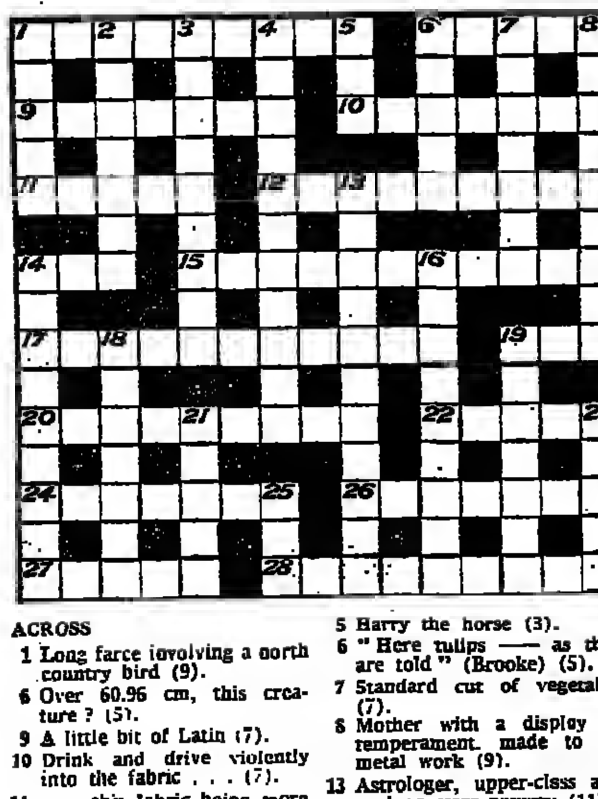
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,261



ACROSS

1 Long farce involving a north country bird (9).
6 Over 60.96 cm, this creature? (5).
9 A little bit of Latin (7).
10 Drink and drive violently into the fabric . . . (7).
11 . . . this fabric being more suitable for one of three boatmen? (5).
12 St Cecilia's graces, for example (9).
14 Letter that reveals the feminine form (3).
15 Felix has a bit of an ode on the disaster (11).
17 The fruit of Samuel Clemens's writing (11).
19 This bird's some dish! (3).
20 To play the prodigal proves wrong ere the finish (9).
22 What Father O'Flynn called him (5).
24 Thus I drink in nuclear physics (7).
26 A Persian god confused him with arts (7).
27 Observed that Edward was absent (5).
28 HMS Apollyon? (9).

DOWN

1 The range or scale may be 27 (5).
2 Make amends for sappers' uniform? (7).
3 Roguish Cloud — possible description of an Austrian prince (9).
4 Job was not so cosy (11).
5 Harry the horse (3).
6 "Here tulips —— as they are told" (Brooke) (5).
7 Standard cut of vegetable (7).
8 Mother with a display of temperament made to do metal work (9).
13 Astrologer, upper-class and mad on stars anyway (11).
14 He spotted his companion in a forest? Just so (9).
16 Coleridge writing The Ancient Mariner? (9).
18 Smoke for a courageous man in bed (7).
19 Make representation of the larboard beam (7).
21 How does one rate Kate? (5).
23 That leporine racer, for instance (5).
25 Howard's novel conclusion (3).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,260

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Courchevel 1650, M'quetaires	1 man	£78
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Saas Fee, Feeblick	3 men or 3 girls	£78
Verbier, Fendant	2 men, 2 girls	£78
Montgenevre, Mourren	2 men or 2 girls	£78

SAT 27 MAR-SAT 10 APR

Meribel, Roches Blanches	3 girls	£116.50
Tignes, Tournavel	1 man	£120

SAT 3 APR-SAT 10 APR

Courchevel 1850, Maisonnee	Whole Chalet (10 beds)	£93
Courchevel 1650, M'quetaires	1 man	£90
Meribel, Roches Blanches	1 man	£93.25
Serre Chevalier, E'mahel	2 men	£88
Sauze d'Oulx, Rascard	1 girl	£84

SUN 4 APR-SUN 18 APR

Wengen, Schweizerheim	2 couples, 4 men or 4 girls	£136
St. Anton, Weber	1 man, 3 girls or 3 men	£149

SAT 10 APR-SAT 17 APR

Serre Chevalier, E'mahel	3 men or 3 girls	£88
Sauze d'Oulx, Rascard	2 men, 2 girls or couple	£84
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SAT 10 APR-MON 19 APR

Sauze d'Oulx, Maleschi	3 men or 3 girls	£97
Argentiere, Chardonnet	2 men	£111
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Verbier, Carrasco	3 men or 3 girls	£124
Zermatt, Thomy	13 beds	£124
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